

The Land Down Under (cont.)

ACTIVITY 123 Main Idea

Name: _____

Date: _____

Read the paragraph below, and then put a plus (+) next to the main idea.

One of the hardest things for someone from the Northern Hemisphere to get used to about Australia is the fact that the seasons are reversed. That means holidays that are celebrated in the winter up north are summer holidays for Australians. For example, many Aussies have a beach party or a barbecue for Christmas and New Year's. Of course, it's just as hard for someone from Australia to go to America or Europe and have their holidays topsy-turvy. If only the Earth's axis were straight up and down, we'd all have the same weather and seasons—and wouldn't that be boring?

- _____ 1. It's confusing but interesting to have seasons reversed in Australia.
- _____ 2. Australians usually have a barbecue on Christmas.
- _____ 3. If the earth's axis were straight up and down, we wouldn't have holidays.

ACTIVITY 124 Predicting Outcomes

Name: _____

Date: _____

Read the following experiment, and put a plus (+) next to the most likely outcome.

One of the interesting features of Australia is its fences. The famous Australian Dingo Fence is the longest manmade object on the planet, over twice as long as the Great Wall of China. Both the Dingo Fence and the shorter Rabbit-Proof Fence were put up to try and control the problems of dingos attacking the sheep herds and rabbits destroying grazing lands. The fences are maintained by fence riders, who repair breaks in the fences and also spread poisons along them.

- _____ 1. Australia's dingos and rabbits will stay where they belong.
- _____ 2. The fences will only be partly successful in keeping the dingos and rabbits where they belong.
- _____ 3. Fence riders will demand more pay for their work.

