



AUTUMNAL EQUINOX ADVISORY MEETING PLAN



Hello Pumpkin-Spicers!

Sunday is the autumnal equinox. Equinox is derived from the Latin words *aequus*, meaning “equal,” and *nox*, meaning “night.” That means that day and night are equal, right? Not quite... brainstorm some factors that impact the length of day and night. We’ll uncover more truths about the autumnal equinox during our advisory meeting today!

~



FALL FAVORITES

01

Think of a fall favorite. This could be a food that you enjoy most (or makes you think of) fall, favorite fall sport/activity, a tradition your family follows in fall, or a favorite fall memory.

02

The person with the birthday closest to today's date begins the acknowledgement. The acknowledgement is "Good Morning, _____. What is one of your fall favorites?"

03

The acknowledgement is complete once everyone has a chance to share a fall favorite, ending with the person who started the acknowledgement.

AUTUMNAL EQUINOX QUIZ GAME

01



Read the question on the slide.

02



Work with your group to come up with an answer.

03



Designate one person to be the speaker for your group for that round.

04



Listen to the other groups' responses.

05



Share the answer your group came up with.

AUTUMNAL EQUINOX QUIZ GAME

What factors influence whether the day and night are equal for a particular location during the equinox?

- Location is the biggest factor. Places that are further away from the equator have slightly longer days because the sun takes longer to rise and set from their vantage point.
- Another factor is the refraction of sunlight (bending of the sun's light rays). Because of the refraction, the sun appears to be above the horizon in some places when it's actually still below it!

A banner with a white outline and a background of colorful autumn leaves. The text "AUTUMNAL EQUINOX QUIZ GAME" is written in a white, hand-drawn font inside the banner.

AUTUMNAL EQUINOX QUIZ GAME

What is the exact time of the equinox in the Northern Hemisphere on September 22, 2024?

The autumnal equinox occurs at 8:43 am EDT. The autumnal equinox occurs at the same time worldwide! The equinox is the moment the sun crosses the **celestial equator** — an imaginary line in the sky above Earth's equator.

A banner with a white outline and a hand-drawn style, containing the text "AUTUMNAL EQUINOX QUIZ GAME". The banner is set against a background of colorful autumn leaves in shades of yellow, orange, red, and purple.

AUTUMNAL EQUINOX QUIZ GAME

September 22, 2024 is considered to be the astronomical start to fall this year, but it is not always the same as the meteorological start date.

When do you think the meteorological start to fall is this year?

Why might it be different?

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AUTUMNAL EQUINOX QUIZ GAME

Astronomical seasons are based on the Earth's position, more so tilt, around the sun.

Meteorological seasons are based on temperature cycles and follow the changing of the calendar month.

The meteorological season of fall in 2024, was on September 1, 2024 as well!

AUTUMNAL EQUINOX FASCINATING FACTS

- Daylight can range anywhere from 12 hours exactly to 12 hours and 16 minutes, depending on where you are in the world.
- On the day of the equinox, the sun moves in a laser-straight line across the sky. For the previous six months, the path has followed more of an upward curve, concave to the north, like a giant smile.
- In astrology, the autumnal equinox signals the time when the sun enters Libra. Libra is the sign of balanced scales.



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