

# Father's Day



## How Is Father's Day Celebrated?

On Father's Day, children often make a special effort to treat their father figure. They might give cards or gifts. Common Father's Day gifts include:



socks;



slippers;



chocolates;



ties;



mugs.

Many Father's Day cards and gifts have slogans, such as 'World's Best Dad'. Children might also make personal gifts and cards, including ones with drawings or photographs of themselves.

## What Is Father's Day?

Father's Day is a celebration of father figures and fatherhood. It has been celebrated in some form since the Middle Ages. In many countries, it is held on 19<sup>th</sup> March.

In the UK, USA and many other countries, Father's Day is held on the third Sunday of June. This was traditionally linked to Pagan Sun worship because the Sun was seen as the father of the universe. Father's Day occurs around the same time as the summer solstice – the day of the year with the longest hours of daylight. This suggests a link between the two.

The modern Father's Day is thought to have begun in 1910 in the USA, when children suggested that a memorial service should be held to remember their fathers who had died. This became Father's Day in the USA and was gradually adopted by many other countries in the Americas and Europe.

## How Is Father's Day Celebrated around the World?



**Australia** .....

In Australia, Father's Day is celebrated on the first Sunday of September (the beginning of spring). In Victoria, fathers and father figures are honoured through various awards, including the Father of the Year Award.



**China** .....

In China, Father's Day is now celebrated on the third Sunday of June. It used to be celebrated on 8<sup>th</sup> August. This date was chosen because it is the eighth day of the eighth month.

Many families also choose to celebrate father figures in their lives. This could be a stepdad, an uncle, a brother, a grandad, a family friend or somebody else who deserves special recognition.

...



In Chinese, the word for 'eighth' makes the sound 'ba'. The eighth of the eighth makes the sound 'ba-ba', which sounds similar to the Chinese word for daddy, which is also pronounced 'ba-ba'.

八八 ba-ba	爸爸 ba-ba
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**Germany** .....

In Germany, Father's Day (Vatertag) is celebrated on Ascension Day, which is the Thursday which falls 40 days after Easter. It is also called Men's Day (Männertag). Groups of males will often go on a hiking tour with small wooden wagons filled with supplies of food and drink.



**Thailand** .....

In Thailand, Father's Day is celebrated on the birthday of an old king (5<sup>th</sup> December). Traditionally, fathers and grandfathers are given a canna lily. Thai people will wear yellow to show respect for the king and many people will gather in a large park in front of the palace to listen to the current king giving a speech. There will be ceremonies in most villages and candles will be lit.

**Did You Know...?**

19<sup>th</sup> March is St. Joseph's Day. In Christianity, Saint Joseph was married to Mary and was a father figure to Jesus.

# Questions

1. When is Father's Day held in the UK? Tick one.

- 19<sup>th</sup> March  
 the third Sunday of June  
 the first Sunday of September  
 5<sup>th</sup> December

2. Draw **three** lines and match each country to the Father's Day fact.

Australia

Germany

Thailand

Groups of males will often go on a hiking tour.

Fathers and grandfathers are given a canna lily.

The Father of the Year Award is given to honour a father figure.

3. List **two** common Father's Day gifts.

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

4. In addition to Father's Day, which other celebration takes place on 19<sup>th</sup> March?

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Find and copy a phrase from the section entitled **How Is Father's Day Celebrated?** which tells you fathers are treated on Father's Day.

\_\_\_\_\_

6. Why do you think is it important to celebrate father figures and fatherhood?

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7. In 30 words or fewer, summarise the information from the section entitled **How Is Father's Day Celebrated?**

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8. In which country would you most like to celebrate Father's Day? Explain your answer.

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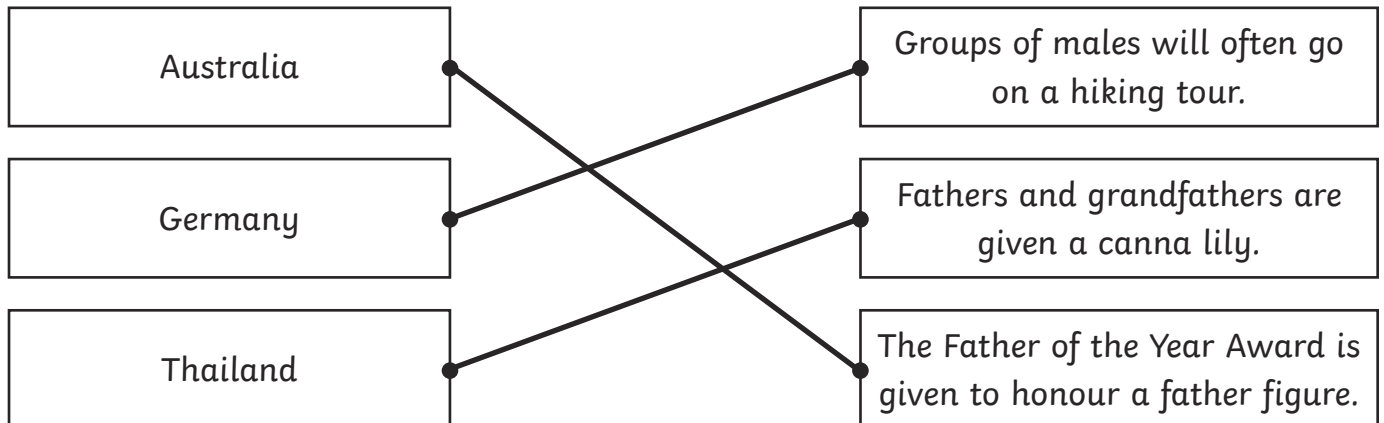
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# Answers

1. When is Father's Day held in the UK? Tick one.

- 19<sup>th</sup> March  
 **the third Sunday of June**  
 the first Sunday of September  
 5<sup>th</sup> December

2. Draw **three** lines and match each country to the Father's Day fact.



3. List **two** common Father's Day gifts.

**Accept any two of the following: socks; slippers; chocolates; ties; mugs.**

4. In addition to Father's Day, which other celebration takes place on 19<sup>th</sup> March?

**St. Joseph's Day also takes place on 19<sup>th</sup> March.**

5. Find and copy a phrase from the section entitled **How Is Father's Day Celebrated?** which tells you fathers are treated on Father's Day.

**special effort to treat their father figure**

6. Why do you think is it important to celebrate father figures and fatherhood?

**Pupils' own responses, such as: Father figures and fatherhood are important to celebrate because fathers help to provide for families and give support and love to their children.**

7. In 30 words or fewer, summarise the information from the section entitled **How Is Father's Day Celebrated?**

**Pupils' own responses, such as: Children make a special effort to treat their father figure by giving them special gifts, including personal ones that they have made themselves.**

8. In which country would you most like to celebrate Father's Day? Explain your answer.

**Pupils' own responses, such as: I'd most like to celebrate in Germany because I enjoy walking in the countryside and I think that my dad would like to go out hiking with a group of friends.**

# Father's Day



## How Is Father's Day Celebrated?

On Father's Day, children often make a special effort to treat their father; they might give cards or gifts. Common Father's Day gifts include socks, slippers, chocolates, ties or mugs.



Sometimes, children make personal gifts and cards, including ones with drawings or photographs of themselves.

Some families celebrate Father's Day by giving their dad a day of relaxation. Many families also choose to celebrate father figures in their lives. This could be a stepdad, an uncle, a brother, a grandad, a family friend or somebody else who deserves special recognition.

## What Is Father's Day?

Father's Day is a celebration which honours fathers and father figures and celebrates fatherhood. It has been observed in some way since the Middle Ages. In many countries, it is held on 19<sup>th</sup> March, which is St. Joseph's Day. In Christianity, Saint Joseph was married to Mary and was a father figure to Jesus.

In the UK, USA and many other countries, Father's Day is held on the third Sunday of June, which is around the same time as the **summer solstice**. This has led to a suggestion that Father's Day was traditionally linked to **Pagan** Sun worship, as the Sun was seen as the father of the universe.

The modern Father's Day is thought to have begun in 1910 in the USA, when children suggested that a memorial service should be held to **commemorate** their fathers who had died. Over time, this became Father's Day in the USA and was gradually adopted by many other countries in the Americas and Europe.

## How Is Father's Day Celebrated around the World?



### Australia

In Australia, Father's Day is celebrated on the first Sunday of September, which is the beginning of spring. In Victoria, fathers and father figures are honoured through various awards, including the Father of the Year Award, which is usually awarded to famous fathers, such as prime ministers, sportsmen and musicians.



**China** .....

In China, Father's Day is now celebrated on the third Sunday of June. However, it used to be celebrated on 8<sup>th</sup> August. It is thought that this date was chosen because it is the eighth day of the eighth month. In Chinese, the word for 'eighth' makes the sound 'ba'. The eighth of the eighth makes the sound 'ba-ba', which sounds similar to the Chinese word for daddy, which is also pronounced 'ba-ba'.

八八 ba-ba	爸爸 ba-ba
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**Germany** .....

In Germany, Father's Day (Vatertag) is celebrated on **Ascension Day** and it is also called Men's Day (Männertag) or Gentlemen's Day (Herrentag). Groups of males, both young and old, will often go on a **hiking** tour. This tradition is thought to date back to the 18<sup>th</sup> century Ascension Day processions when men would hike from the farmlands to the village square.



**Thailand** .....

In Thailand, Father's Day is celebrated on the birthday (5<sup>th</sup> December) of a favourite king called King Rama IX. Traditionally, fathers and grandfathers are given a canna lily, which is thought to be a masculine flower. Thai people will wear yellow to show respect for the late king and many will gather in a large park in front of the palace to listen to the current king giving his **annual** speech. There will be ceremonies in most villages and candles will be lit to show respect for the king.

**Glossary**

**annual:** Occurring once each year.

...

**Ascension Day:** In Christianity, 40 days after Easter when Jesus is believed to have risen to heaven.

...

**commemorate:** To remember and show respect for something.

...

**hiking:** Walk for a long distance, especially across country.

...

**Pagan:** Related to Paganism, which is an ancient religion.

...

**summer solstice:** The day of the year with the longest hours of daylight.

# Questions

1. According to the text, which of these are common Father's Day gifts? Tick **two**.

- flowers
- mugs
- socks
- cars

2. Draw **three** lines and match each word to its definition.

annual

commemorate

summer solstice

The day of the year with the longest hours of daylight.

Occurring once each year.

To remember and show respect for something.

3. When is Father's Day in the UK each year?

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4. Fill in the missing words.

Some families celebrate Father's Day by giving their \_\_\_\_\_  
a day of \_\_\_\_\_.

5. Look at the section entitled **How Is Father's Day Celebrated?**

Find and copy one word which means the same as **acknowledgement**.

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6. Explain why Father's Day is celebrated on 5<sup>th</sup> December in Thailand.

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7. Who do you think deserves a Father of the Year Award? Explain your answer.

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8. Why do you think that some countries celebrate Father's Day on the same day as St. Joseph's Day?

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9. Which kind of gift do you think that father figures prefer? Explain your answer.

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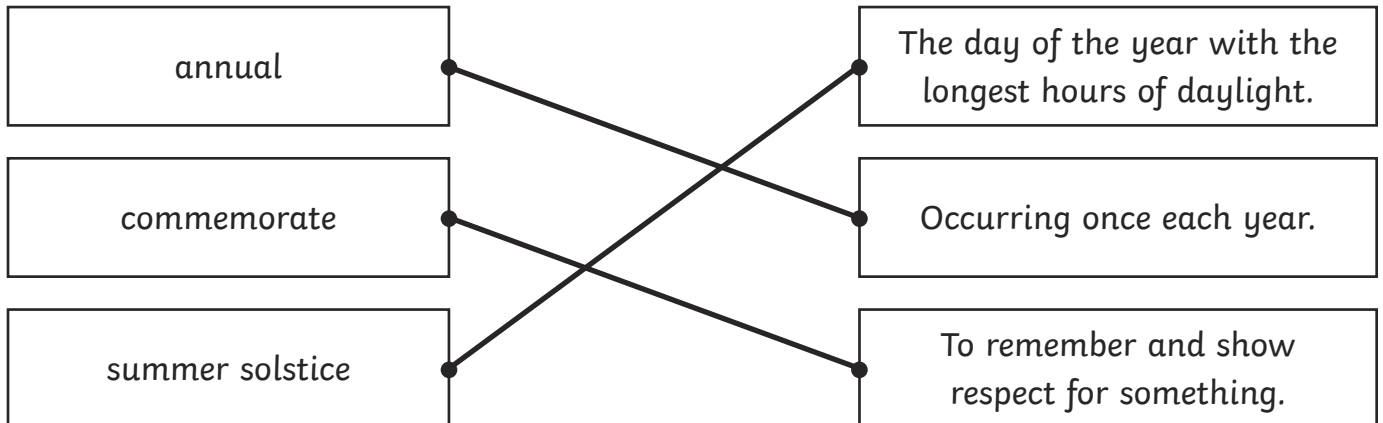
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# Answers

1. According to the text, which of these are common Father's Day gifts? Tick **two**.

- flowers
- mugs**
- socks**
- cars

2. Draw **three** lines and match each word to its definition.



3. When is Father's Day in the UK each year?

**Father's Day in the UK is on the third Sunday of June each year.**

4. Fill in the missing words.

Some families celebrate Father's Day by giving their **dad** a day of **relaxation**.

5. Look at the section entitled **How Is Father's Day Celebrated?**

Find and copy one word which means the same as **acknowledgement**.

**recognition**

6. Explain why Father's Day is celebrated on 5<sup>th</sup> December in Thailand.

**Pupils' own responses, such as: One of the favourite kings of Thailand was born on 5<sup>th</sup> December so they celebrate all fathers on this day to show respect. They also wear yellow to show respect for the late King Rama IX.**

7. Who do you think deserves a Father of the Year Award? Explain your answer.

**Pupils' own responses, such as: I think that our headteacher deserves a Father of the Year Award because he not only has his own children at home but he also treats all of the pupils at school as if we were his children – he really cares for us all.**

8. Why do you think that some countries celebrate Father's Day on the same day as St. Joseph's Day?

**Pupils' own responses, such as: Saint Joseph was a very important father figure to Jesus – in many Christian countries, they combine the two days to show respect for fathers and also one of the most important fathers in their religion.**

9. Which kind of gift do you think that father figures prefer? Explain your answer.

**Pupils' own responses, such as: I think that father figures prefer gifts that have been handmade by their children because these gifts will have had more thought and effort put into them.**

# Father's Day



## How Is Father's Day Celebrated?

On Father's Day, children often make a special effort to treat their father figure by giving cards or gifts, such as socks, slippers, chocolates, ties or mugs.



Many of these presents are adorned with slogans, such as 'World's Best Dad' and children often make personal gifts and cards, including ones with drawings or photographs of themselves.

...

Some families celebrate Father's Day by giving their dad a day of relaxation, which might include breakfast in bed, a family walk and picnic or a meal out as a family.

...

A celebration honouring fathers and celebrating fatherhood, Father's Day has been observed in some way since the Middle Ages. In many countries, it is held on 19<sup>th</sup> March, coinciding with the Christian celebration of St. Joseph's Day. Saint Joseph was married to Mary and was the legal father of Jesus – therefore he has been seen as an important father figure for many centuries.

In the UK, USA and many other countries, Father's Day is held on the third Sunday of June, which is around the same time as the summer solstice. This has led to the suggestion that Father's Day was originally linked to Pagan Sun worship because in Paganism (an ancient religion), the Sun was seen as the father of the universe.

The modern Father's Day is thought to have begun in 1910 following a catastrophic mining disaster in Monogah, USA. As a result of this tragic event, approximately 1,000 children were left without fathers. These children suggested that a memorial service should be held to commemorate their fathers. The date wasn't officially adopted as Father's Day until 1972 in the USA but, over time, it was embraced by many other countries in the Americas and Europe.

## Father's Day around the World



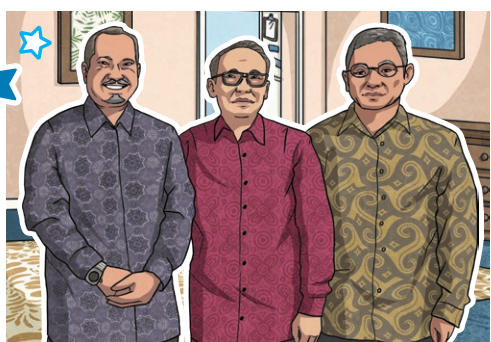
### Australia

In Australia, Father's Day is celebrated at the beginning of spring on the first Sunday of September. In the state of Victoria, fathers and father figures are honoured through various awards, including the Father of the Year Award, which was first presented in 1957. It is usually awarded to prominent father figures, including prime ministers, sportsmen and musicians, to honour the support, love and guidance they provide for Australian children.



On Father's Day, many families also choose to celebrate special father figures in their lives. This could be a stepdad, an uncle, a brother, a grandad, a family friend or somebody else who deserves special recognition.

...



**China** .....

Although it is now celebrated on the third Sunday of June, Father's Day in China was originally celebrated on 8<sup>th</sup> August. It is thought that this date was chosen because it is the eighth day of the eighth month. In Chinese, the word for 'eighth' makes the sound 'ba'. The eighth of the eighth makes the sound 'ba-ba', which sounds similar to the Chinese word for daddy, which is also pronounced 'ba-ba'.

八八 ba-ba	爸爸 ba-ba
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**Germany** .....

In Germany, Father's Day (Vatertag) is celebrated on Ascension Day (the Thursday 40 days after Easter when, in Christianity, Christ is believed to have risen to heaven). It is also called Men's Day (Männertag) or Gentlemen's Day (Herrentag). Groups of males both young and old, will often go on a hiking tour, walking for a long distance across country, with small wooden wagons filled with supplies of food (often meat) and drink. This tradition is thought to date back to the 18<sup>th</sup> century Ascension Day processions, when men would hike from the farmlands to the village square and the mayor would award the father of the most children with a prize: ham!



**Thailand** .....

In Thailand, Father's Day is celebrated on the birthday (5<sup>th</sup> December) of the late, highly-respected King Bhumibol Adulyadej, commonly known as Rama IX. Traditionally, fathers and grandfathers are given a canna lily, which is thought to be a masculine flower. Thai people will wear yellow to show respect for the late king as yellow is the colour of Monday, the day of his birth. Many also gather in a large park in front of the palace to listen to the current king giving his annual speech. Those that cannot attend will hold ceremonies in their villages during which candles will be lit to show respect for the king.

# Questions

1. When was Father's Day first celebrated? Tick one.

- Middle Ages
- 1910
- 1957
- 1972

2. What names are given to Father's Day in Germany? Tick all that apply.

- Vatertag
- Männertag
- Herrentag
- Ascension Day

3. Who suggested that a memorial service should be held following a catastrophic mining disaster?

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4. In addition to fathers, name **three** other people that might be celebrated on Father's Day.

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- ---
- ---

5. Find and copy one word from the text which means the same as **devastating**.

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6. Why is Father's Day celebrated on different days in different countries? Choose at least two countries to compare.

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7. Using 40 words or fewer, summarise what you have learnt about Australian Father's Day.

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8. Why do German men take food and drink on their hike? Give two reasons.

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9. Describe the perfect Father's Day for your father figure.

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10. Do you think that fathers prefer gifts or days with their families? Give evidence to support your answer.

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# Answers

1. When was Father's Day first celebrated? Tick one.

- Middle Ages**
- 1910
- 1957
- 1972

2. What names are given to Father's Day in Germany? Tick all that apply.

- Vatertag**
- Männertag**
- Herrentag**
- Ascension Day

3. Who suggested that a memorial service should be held following a catastrophic mining disaster?

**Children suggested that a memorial service should be held.**

4. In addition to fathers, name **three** other people that might be celebrated on Father's Day.

**Accept any three of the following: a stepdad; an uncle; a brother; a grandad; a family friend; somebody who deserves special recognition.**

5. Find and copy one word from the text which means the same as **devastating**.

**catastrophic**

6. Why is Father's Day celebrated on different days in different countries? Choose at least two countries to compare.

**Pupils' own responses, such as: In Germany, it is celebrated on the Christian festival of Ascension Day which is thought to be due to the 18<sup>th</sup> century processions when men would hike from farms to the village and the father of the most children would receive a prize (of ham) from the mayor. In the UK, it is celebrated on the third Sunday of June – this is linked to the summer solstice due to the Pagan worship of the Sun as father of the universe or because of modern Father's Day, which was originally celebrated in America in 1910.**

7. Using 40 words or fewer, summarise what you have learnt about Australian Father's Day.

**Pupils' own responses, such as: Australian Father's Day is celebrated at the beginning of spring (first Sunday of September); a well-known father figure is awarded with a Father of the Year Award in recognition of his support of Australian children.**

8. Why do German men take food and drink on their hike? Give two reasons.

**Pupils' own responses, such as: German men take food and drink because they will need it if they are hiking for long periods of time across countryside; they also want to remember the 18<sup>th</sup> century processions when the father of the most children would be presented with a prize of ham by the mayor.**

9. Describe the perfect Father's Day for your father figure.

**Pupils' own responses, such as: My stepdad would love a day when he didn't have to do any jobs around the house; we could start by giving him breakfast in bed and then go out for a play in the park with a picnic lunch. I would make him a card with some funny cartoon pictures of us playing football together. He would enjoy relaxing in the afternoon (and probably having a snooze!).**

10. Do you think that fathers prefer gifts or days with their families? Give evidence to support your answer.

**Pupils' own responses, such as: I think that fathers prefer having a day out with their families because a lot of dads have to work in the week and only see their families in the evening; it is nice to spend a whole day together without having to worry about work.**