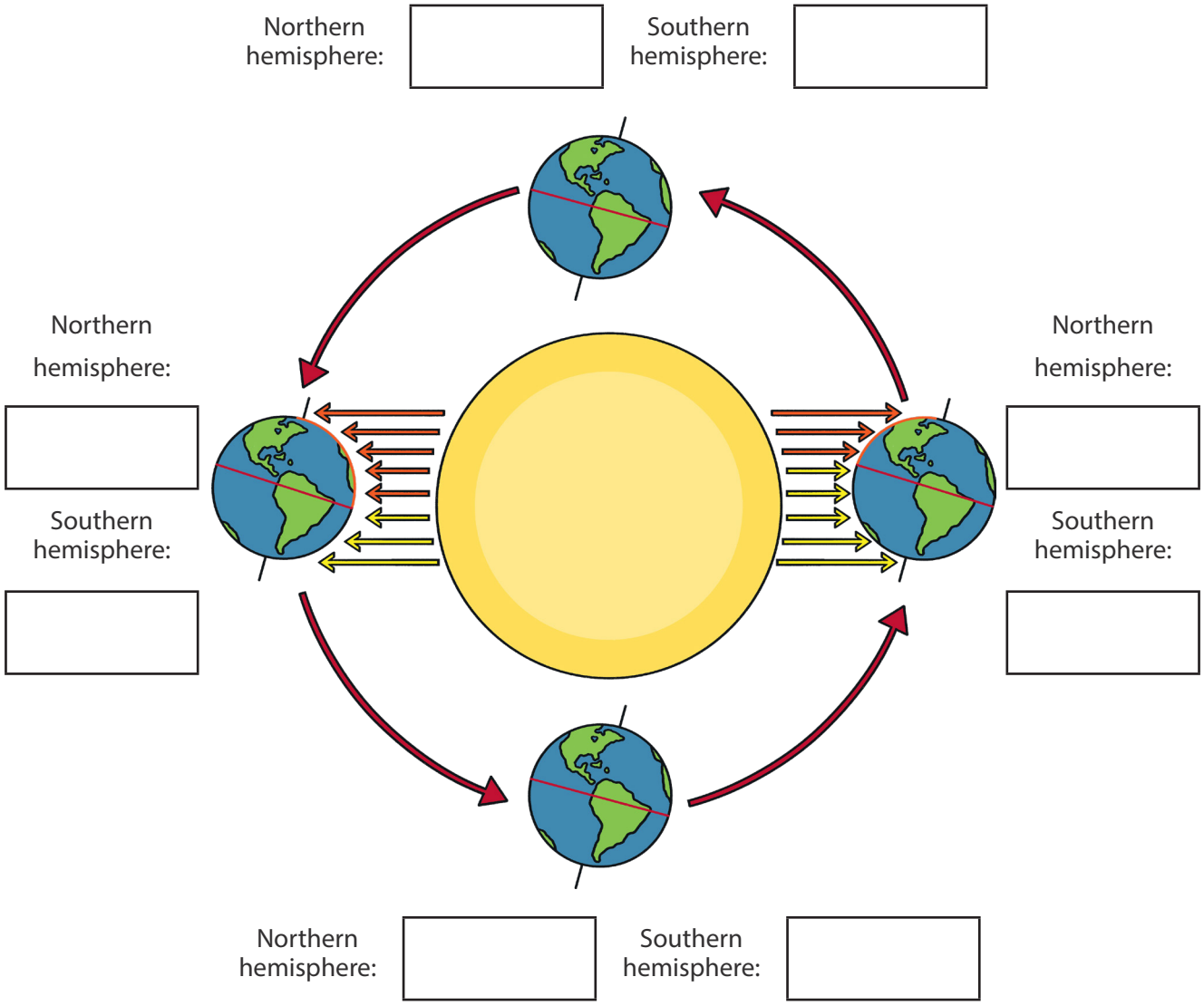
Seasons of the Earth

1. Read the statements below and tick those which are true.

- The seasons are caused by the Earth being closer or farther from the Sun. ☐
- The Earth orbits around the Sun in a perfectly circular pathway. ☐
- The seasons are caused because the Earth is tilted on its axis (23.5˚). ☐
- The Earth's hemispheres receive direct sunlight in the summer, and indirect sunlight during the winter. ☐

2. Cut out the labels and stick them into the spaces below to correctly label the diagram.



spring	spring	autumn	autumn
summer	summer	winter	winter

BEYOND SCIENCE

3. Complete the sentences by using the words in the box. You may use some words more than once.

longer	spring	autumn	shorter	northern	directly
away from	towards	hotter	indirectly	colder	

It is summer in the UK when the _____ hemisphere is tilted _____ the Sun. The Sun is shining _____ on the hemisphere, and so it feels _____.

It is winter in the UK when the _____ hemisphere is tilted _____ the Sun. The Sun is shining _____ on the hemisphere, and so it feels _____.

The North Pole never points directly at the Sun. As the North Pole begins to move away from the Sun, we call this season _____. During this time, the Sun rises lower in the sky and the days become _____.

As the North Pole begins to move towards the Sun, we call this season _____. During this time, the Sun rises higher in the sky and the days become _____.

Just for Fun

Have a go at creating a model and explain this to a family member or a friend. You could use a round piece of fruit, such as an apple or tangerine, to represent the Earth and a torch as the Sun. You could show the axis with a wooden skewer.

Seasons of the Earth Answers

1. Read the statements below and tick those which are true.

- The seasons are caused by the Earth being closer or farther from the Sun. ☐
- The Earth orbits around the Sun in a perfectly circular pathway. ☐
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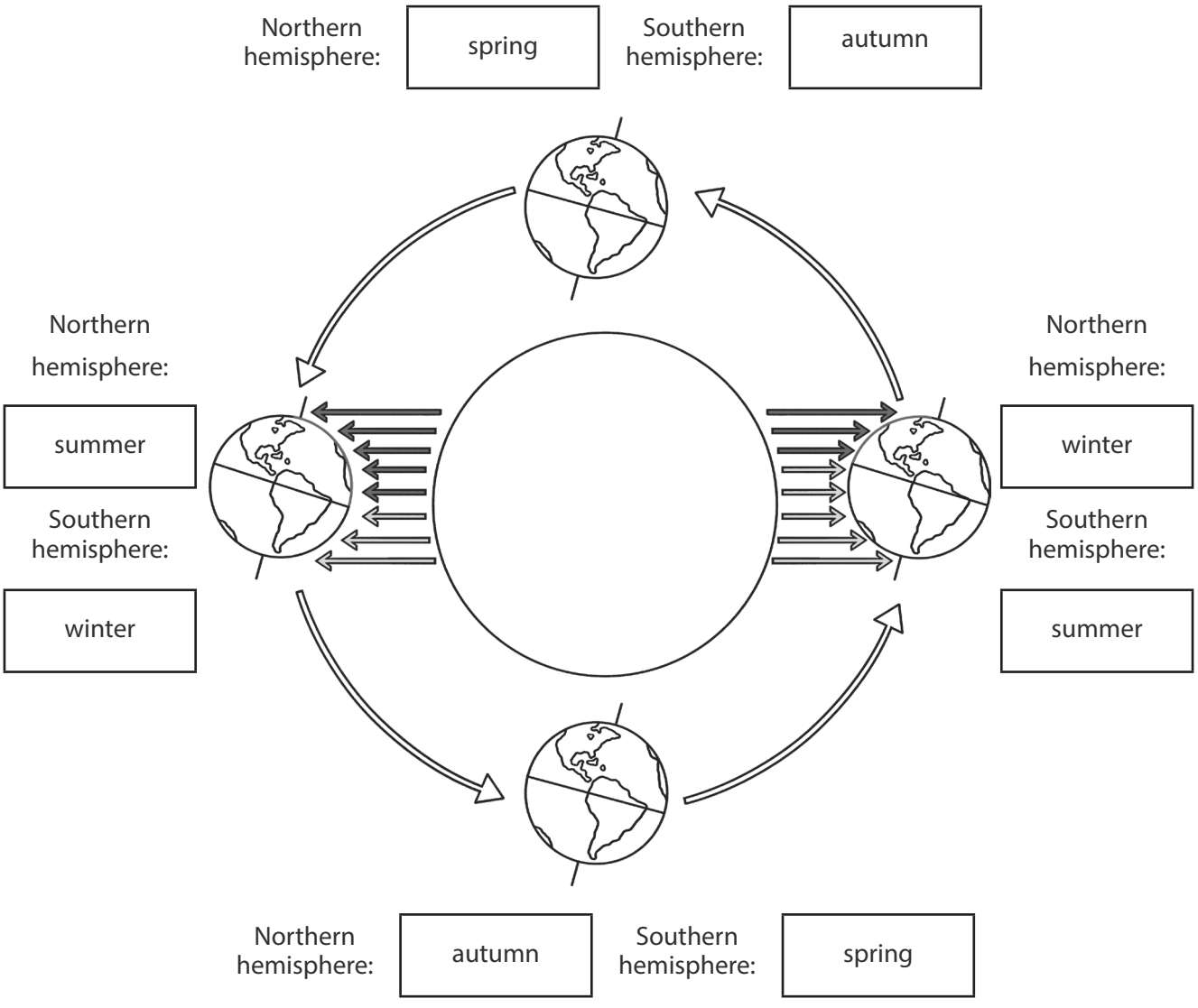

3. Complete the sentences by using the words in the box. You may use some words more than once.

longer	spring	autumn	shorter	northern	directly
away from	towards	hotter	indirectly	colder	

It is summer in the UK when the northern hemisphere is tilted towards the Sun. The Sun is shining directly on the hemisphere, and so it feels hotter.

It is winter in the UK when the northern hemisphere is titled away from the Sun. The Sun is shining indirectly on the hemisphere, and so it feels colder.

The North Pole never points directly at the Sun. As the North Pole begins to move away from the Sun, we call this season autumn. During this time, the Sun rises lower in the sky and the days become shorter.

As the North Pole begins to move towards the Sun, we call this season spring. During this time, the Sun rises higher in the sky and the days become longer.

Just for Fun

Have a go at creating a model and explain this to a family member or a friend. You could use a round piece of fruit, such as an apple or tangerine, to represent the Earth and a torch as the Sun. You could show the axis with a wooden skewer.