

**First Day of Summer / Summer Solstice Haiku Challenge**  
**June 21, 2007**

<p>It will be steamy          And expect hot and humid          Stay in a cool spot.</p>	<p><b>SUMMER SOLSTICE</b>          Celebrate the light          Toss worries into the fire.          Join me on the porch.</p>	<p>Flowers all in bloom.          Bees are buzzing all around.          Sweet smells fill the air.</p>
<p>Hot kids everywhere          Sticky giggling eating all          Air conditioned joy.</p>	<p>Fireflies dance at dusk          Bats swoop searching for a meal          Bullfrogs croak goodnight.</p>	<p>A butterfly floats          Petals unfold to the sun          Will you stay forever!</p>
<p>Sweet children homebound          Seventy or so long days          Reading for escape.</p>	<p>Kids play hide and seek.          Lightening bugs flash in a jar.          Slumber will come soon.</p>	<p>Intense, searing heat          Breakfast cooking on sidewalk          Eggs scrambled or fried?</p>
<p>Bugs birds wilted stalks          Thirsty hot irritated          Pray rain comes sooner</p>	<p>Rich black earth broken          By sprouts rising and growing          To grace table and plate.</p>	<p>Pleasant spring breezes          Give way to blistering heat          June in the midwest.</p>
<p>Electronic noise          Kids plugged in techno savvy          Full blasting faster.</p>	<p><b>SUMMER MAGIC</b>          Spring is Sprung, whala          Sand, Surf, Sun out of the hat          Summer madness here</p>	<p>Plant me in the shade          Water me with the roses          For I bloom happy.</p>
<p><b>SUMMERTIME</b>          Livin' is easy          When warbles of birdsong sing          Gershwin melodies.</p>	<p><b>SUMMER</b>          Hot, humid, buggy          Thunderstorms, swimming, picnics          Can autumn be far?</p>	<p>Still hot at twilight          Insect chorus serenades          Summer dances in.</p>
<p>Pleasant gentle breeze          Gently swaying on the swing          Birds chirp melodies.</p>	<p>Buzzing A.C. units          Complete with humming insects          Glorious summer!</p>	<p>Corn tomatoes grill          All things fresh and local          The taste of summer.</p>
<p>Cold watermelon          Picnics and family fun          Memories to make.</p>	<p>Ripe, red berries          Hummingbirds grace the garden          Ahhh...sweet summer!</p>	<p>Warm days stretch their wings          Soft breezes cool at nightfall          Find the summer quilts!</p>
<p>Iced tea replaces hot          Grilling out beats baking in          Summer games begin.</p>	<p>Hazy hot humid          Chirping crickets ease the night          Welcome back, Summer!</p>	<p><b>MOWING THE LAWN</b>          Humidity sucks          Already showered today          Why did I bother</p>

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<p>THE LONGEST DAY Cicadas chatter Fire flies flutter and glimmer Long light, eve aglow</p>	<p>FROLIC The sun burns daytime Play slows to a weary crawl But then the rain falls</p>	<p>Ice cream melts too fast Cold gives way to hot again Summer tug of war.</p>
<p>Lightening flashes bright. Skies darken and thunder rolls. Rain begins to fall.</p>	<p>Rich black earth broken By sprouts growing and reaching To fill vase and plate.</p>	