The Eiffel Tower Shrinks

ATOMIC FACTS

Match the words to their definitinos

1. SHRINK
2. IRON
3. BEND
4. ATOMS
5. THERMOMETER
6. GROW
7. HEAT

- A very small part of all matter.
- To become bigger.
- A strong metal used to build things.
- To become smaller.
- Energy that makes things warmer.
- Shape or force something into a curve or angle.
- Tool used to measure of how hot or cold something is.

Read the text and pick the right option

Why Does the Eiffel Tower Grow in Summer?

The Eiffel Tower is one of the most famous buildings in the world. It is in Paris, France, and it was built in 1889 to commemorate the centenary of the French Revolution. The tower is made of iron and is about 300 metres tall.

Many people do not know that the Eiffel Tower changes its size during the year. This happens because of heat. In summer, when temperatures reach 40°C, it becomes taller. In winter, when temperatures hit -20°C, it becomes shorter.

When a material gets hot, its atoms move more since they need more space, so they move slightly farther apart. As a result, the material expands, or gets bigger.

During hot summer days, the tower can grow about 15 centimetres taller, but when the weather becomes colder, the iron contracts and the tower returns to its normal size.

The sun can also heat one side of the tower more than the other. Because of this, the tower can bend a little and move away from the sun.

So, the Eiffel Tower is not always the same size. It grows and shrinks with the temperature, making it a giant thermometer in the middle of Paris.

Read the text and pick the right option

1. What happens to the atoms when the temperature rises?

a) They move farther apart.
b) They move closer together.

2. Why can the Eiffel Tower bend a little?

a) The sun heats one side more than the other.
b) The wind pushes one side more than the other.

3. Which idea does the article explain?

a) Temperature can change the size of metal objects.
b) Temperature can change the colour of metal objects.

4. Why does the article call the Eiffel Tower a "giant thermometer"?

a) Beacuse it helps to measure the weather every day.
b) Because it changes with heat.

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