



Glossary

ellipse - a closed curve that results by cutting a cone on an angle. In mathematics, it is part of a group of curves called conic sections. This group include hyperbolas, parabolas and circles.

gnomon - the shadow-casting object in the centre of a sundial. The gnomon of a sundial can be vertical, slanted or even horizontal.

magnetic north - the direction of the magnetic field lines of the Earth. A compass needle will always point towards magnetic north.

sundial - a device that measures time using the position of the sun. A gnomon in the centre casts a shadow, indicating the time.

true north - the direction towards the geographic North Pole.