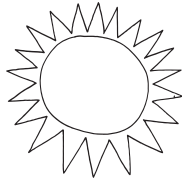


The Sun

Name: _____

Sun Facts

• The Sun is a common middle-sized yellow star and the largest object in the solar system.



- The diameter of the Sun is about 109 times that of the Earth.
- The Sun is completely gaseous. There is no solid surface on the Sun.
- The Sun is about 150 million km from Earth.
- Light takes about 8 minutes to travel from the Sun to Earth.
- Aztecs believed that the Sun died every night and needed human blood to give it strength to rise the next day, so they sacrificed 15,000 men a year to appease their Sun god.

Do you know any more interesting facts about the Sun?

Art

The colours of sunrise and sunset are related to the scattering of different wavelengths of sunlight.

At sunset and sunrise, sunlight's path through the atmosphere is much longer than during the daytime, which creates different colours.

What colours do you see at sunrise and sunset?

Do clouds make the effect more spectacular?

Draw or paint a beautiful sunrise or sunset.

Extension Research

Prepare a short report on the Sun based on the answers to all or some of the following questions.

What is a solar eclipse?

Does the Sun rotate?

Why is it warmer at the equator than at the poles?

What causes sunburn?

What are sunspots?

Poster Design

The Sun can be dangerous to humans. It is so bright that staring directly into it for any length of time could burn your eyes and result in blindness.

In what other ways can the Sun be dangerous to humans?

Design and make a poster showing how to be "sun safe".

Planning

1. Think of a catchy title or heading - an 'attention grabber'.
2. Emphasise the solutions (how to be safe).
3. Decide on the layout, text size and font, pictures, colours and style.

Does your poster warn and inform?

Time

Below are the sunrise and sunset times for five towns.

How many hours is the Sun up in each town?

Andyville sunrise: 6.00 am sunset: 7.00 pm

Carol town sunrise: 5.00 am sunset: 8.00 pm

Sammyville sunrise: 7.00 am sunset: 5.00 pm

Gretaland sunrise: 6.30 am sunset: 8.30 pm

Peterby sunrise: 4.30 am sunset: 9.30 pm

