Name: _____ Date: _____

The Sun Is a Star Up Close

Circle group

The sun is a star! It looks big and bright. The stars at night look like tiny dots. Why?

The sun is much closer. The other stars are very far away. A far thing looks small.

Hold up a coin. Look at a car far down the road. The coin looks bigger. But the car is really bigger.

The sun warms and lights our world. Never look right at it.

Questions

1. What is the sun?

_____

_____

2. How do the other stars look at night?

_____

_____

3. What does the sun do for our world?

_____

_____

4. What should you never do?

_____

_____

5. Why do the other stars look small?

_____

_____

Words to know

star: a huge ball of hot gas that shines
warm: a little bit hot, in a nice way
coin: a small, flat piece of money

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

The Sun Is a Star Up Close

Triangle group

The sun is a star! It looks big and bright. The stars at night look like tiny dots. Why?

The sun is much closer to us. The other stars are very, very far away. A faraway thing looks small.

You can try this. Hold up a coin and look at a car far down the road. The coin looks bigger than the car. But the car is really bigger. A big thing can look small when it is far off.

The sun warms the day and lights up our world. Never look right at it. It can hurt your eyes, even on a nice day.

Questions

1. What is the sun?

_____

_____

2. How do the other stars look at night?

_____

_____

3. What does the sun do for our world?

_____

_____

4. What should you never do with the sun?

_____

_____

5. Why do the other stars look so small?

_____

_____

Words to know

star: a huge ball of hot gas that shines
faraway: a long way off
warm: a little bit hot, in a nice way

coin: a small, flat piece of money

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

Name: _____ Date: _____

The Sun Is a Star Up Close

Square group

The sun is actually a star, and it looks enormous and bright to us. The stars we see at night look like tiny dots. Why is that?

The sun is much, much closer to Earth. The other stars are unimaginably far away, and anything that is far away looks small.

You can test this idea. Hold up a coin and look at a car far down the road. The coin appears bigger than the car, even though the car is truly bigger.

The sun warms and lights our world, but you must never look straight at it, because it can hurt your eyes.

Questions

1. What is the sun, actually?

_____

_____

2. How do the stars we see at night look?

_____

_____

3. What does the sun do for our world?

_____

_____

4. What must you never do with the sun?

_____

_____

5. Why do the other stars look so small?

_____

_____

Words to know

star: a huge ball of hot gas that shines
warm: a little bit hot, in a nice way
coin: a small, flat piece of money

Talk together (every group has these)

1. Find one fact that every group read. How did your sheet say it?
2. What did your sheet tell you that you think another group's did not? Ask them.
3. What is one question about this topic that none of the sheets answered?

For the teacher: The Sun Is a Star Up Close

Each student sheet carries a shape, not a level. The same topic and facts, written three ways.

Circle: The Sun Is a Star Up Close

Easier · 70 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade -0.2

1. A star.
2. Like tiny dots.
3. It warms and lights it.
4. Look right at the sun.
5. They are very far away.

Triangle: The Sun Is a Star Up Close

This passage · 105 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 0.4

1. A star.
2. Like tiny dots.
3. It warms the day and lights it up.
4. Look right at it.
5. They are very, very far away.

Square: The Sun Is a Star Up Close

Harder · 103 words · Flesch-Kincaid grade 3.5

1. A star.
2. Like tiny dots.
3. It warms and lights it.
4. Look straight at it.
5. They are unimaginably far away, and far things look small.