

Lesson Plan

Sun Scoop

Book: *The Sun*

Series: Space

Level: Beacon

Objective

To have students practice finding key details in a text about the Sun.

Supplies

- Several copies of *The Sun*
- Sun Scoop worksheet (attached)
- Pencils

Before the Activity

Print a copy of the Sun Scoop worksheet for each student. Read *The Sun* out loud, or assign it to students to read on their own.

Activity

Divide students into groups of four or five. Give each group a copy of *The Sun*, and give each student a copy of the Sun Scoop worksheet. Explain that each sentence on this worksheet is missing words or numbers. Students should use the information from the book to fill in each blank. Remind students to pay attention to photo captions, fact boxes, and infographics in addition to the main text.

Evaluation

Collect the worksheets at the end of class. Use the attached answer key to give each student 1 point for each correct answer, for up to 28 points total.

Standards

This lesson may be used to address the Common Core State Standards' reading standards for informational text, grade 3 (RI 3.1, 3.4, 3.5, 3.7).

Sun Scoop

1. The forces that control the Sun's corona are the Sun's _____ and _____.
2. At first, the Sun was a cloud of _____ and _____. The cloud caved in on itself because of its _____.
3. _____ is plasma, like the Sun. It has an electric charge and carries the Sun's _____ through the _____.
4. Everything in the _____ moves around the Sun. The Sun's _____ is very strong.
5. In 2021, the _____ became the fastest spacecraft ever. It was gathering new _____ about the Sun.
6. The _____ part of the Sun is called the core. It is at the _____ of the Sun.
7. _____ and _____ are the two main gases in the Sun.
8. A solar eclipse happens when the _____ comes between the _____ and _____.
9. In the _____, scientists built the first telescopes. In the _____, they discovered the Sun's distance from Earth.
10. Energy can build up in the Sun's _____. Then the energy explodes in a burst of light. These flashes are called _____.
11. The Sun makes huge amounts of _____ and _____. This makes life possible on _____.
12. _____ look darker on the Sun's surface because they are _____.

Sun Scoop ANSWER KEY

1. The forces that control the Sun's corona are the Sun's gravity and magnetic fields.
2. At first, the Sun was a cloud of gas and dust. The cloud caved in on itself because of its gravity.
3. Solar wind is plasma, like the Sun. It has an electric charge and carries the Sun's magnetic fields through the solar system.
4. Everything in the solar system moves around the Sun. The Sun's gravity is very strong.
5. In 2021, the Parker Solar Probe became the fastest spacecraft ever. It was gathering new data about the Sun.
6. The hottest part of the Sun is called the core. It is at the center of the Sun.
7. Hydrogen and helium are the two main gases in the Sun.
8. A solar eclipse happens when the Moon comes between the Sun and Earth.
9. In the 1600s, scientists built the first telescopes. In the 1700s, they discovered the Sun's distance from Earth.
10. Energy can build up in the Sun's magnetic fields. Then the energy explodes in a burst of light. These flashes are called solar flares.
11. The Sun makes huge amounts of energy and light. This makes life possible on Earth.
12. Sunspots look darker on the Sun's surface because they are cooler.