



## Teacher's Notes: Solar System

The students will be able to match picture to picture.

The students will be able to identify the sun.

The students will be able to explain the relationship between the sun and solar system

The students will be able to identify how the sun is helpful.

The students will be able to explain that the sun can be used to make electricity

### Activities

1. Students do image searches. Have the students save pictures of their favorite ones. Those are then inserted onto a Word document or a PowerPoint. Students write a sentence about each bird characteristic. **See Technology printable in the materials.**
2. Get a collection of magazines. Have students look for pictures of things that use electricity. Depending on group you could use the pictures for different things:
  - Everyone glues their pictures on one big poster board.
  - Students make their own collage of things that use electricity.
  - Students write sentences about electricity.
3. Get a collection of magazines. Have students look for pictures of things that need the sun. Depending on group you could use the pictures for different things:
  - Everyone glues their pictures on one big poster board.
  - Students make their own collage of things that use electricity.
  - Students write sentences about electricity.

**General Tips:** The goal is to build background knowledge while leading an engaging discussion on any and all information that can be talked about on a given page. The items that you choose to bring up or focus on can be modified for the students you are working with. For example, if you have a student who can point to something in the picture, answer yes/no questions be sure to incorporate a lot more of that as you go through the book. On the same token, be sure to ask a lot of comprehension questions and critical thinking questions at the level appropriate for students. There is something for everyone.

**Page 1:** The sun in the sky.

**Point:** sky, stars

**WH Questions:** What is a star that we see during the day? Where is the sky?

**Yes/No:** Is the sun a planet? Is the sun a star?

**Opinions/Experiences:** Do you like to look at stars at night? Do you like to look at the sun during the day?

**Peer to Peer Interaction:** After you read Page 1, ask students, “What star do we see during the day?” The answer is the main idea card “sun.” Students will find the main idea card and read it to their partner. Teacher will prompt them to talk to each other about the sun.

**Page 2:** Did you know that the sun is a star?? The sun is a star that we can see during the day.

**Point:** sky, stars

**WH Questions:** What is a star that we see during the day?

**Yes/No:** Is the sun a planet? Is the sun a star?

**Opinions/Experiences:** Do you like to look at stars at night? Do you like to look at the sun during the day?

**Peer to Peer Interaction:** After you read Page 1, ask students, “What star do we see during the day?” The answer is the main idea card “sun.” Students will find the main idea card and read it to their partner. Teacher will prompt them to talk to each other about the sun.

**Page 3:** There are 8 planets in the solar system. The sun is in our solar system. All of the planets move around the sun. We live on planet Earth. Have the students listen to the following song about the solar system. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mQrlgH97v94>

**Point:** Sun, planets, solar system

**WH Questions:** What is the sun and 8 planets called? How many planets are in the solar system? What is the solar system?

**Yes/No:** Is the sun part of our solar system? Are there two planets in the solar system? Are there 8 planets in our solar system?

**Opinion/Experiences:** What planet do we live on?

**Peer to Peer Interaction:** After you read Page 3, ask students, “What is solar system?” Students will find the main idea card and read it to their partner. Teacher will prompt them to talk to each other about the solar system.

**Page 4:** The sun is in the middle of the solar system. Have the students view the following video of the planets moving around the sun. Have the students point to the sun and Earth. Talk about how the sun is in the middle of the solar system. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z8aBZZnv6y8>

**Point:** sky, sun, other stars, Earth

**Questions:** Is the sun at the end or the middle of the solar system?

**Yes/No:** Is the sun part of the solar system? Is the sun at the end of the solar system? Is the sun in the middle of the solar system?

**Sharing Opinion/Experiences:** Pick one person to be the sun. Pick 8 students to stand around the student who is the sun. Have the 8 students move around the sun.

**Peer to Peer Interaction:** After you read Page 4, ask students, “Is the sun in the middle or the end of the solar system?” The answer is the main idea card “middle.” Students will find the main idea card and read it to their partner. Teacher will prompt them to talk to each other about where the sun is located.

**Page 5:** All of the 8 planets rotate around the sun. That means that they move around the sun. Have the students view the previous video one more time. Talk about how the planets are moving around the sun. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z8aBZZnv6y8>

**Point:** sun, other stars, planets, Earth

**WH Questions:** What is another word for moving around? What does rotate mean? What do the planets do around the sun? What rotates around the sun.

**Yes/No:** Does the sun rotate around the planets? Do the planets rotate around the sun?

**Sharing Opinion/Experiences:**

**Peer to Peer Interaction:** After you read Page 5, ask students, “What do the planets do around the sun?” The answer is the main idea card “rotate.” Students will find the main idea card and read it to their partner. Teacher will prompt them to ask their partner about some of the questions above.

**Page 6:** The sun keeps the Earth warm. If there was no sun, the Earth would be way, way too cold for people and animals. People and animals can live on Earth because the sun keeps it warm.

**Point:** boy, bowl, salad, fork, tomato, lizard

**WH Questions:** What needs the sun? Why do people and animals need the sun? Does the sun make the Earth warm or cold?

**Yes/No:** Do people need the sun? Do animals need the sun?

**Opinion/Experiences:** People need the sun because it keeps the sun warm. However, too much sun can be bad. People can get a sunburn if they are in the sun too long. Have you ever had a sunburn? It is important to wear sunscreen so that you do not get a sunburn.

**Peer to Peer Interaction:** After you read Page 7, ask students, “What needs the sun?”

The answer is the main idea card “people and animals.” Students will find the main idea card and read it to their partner. Teacher will prompt them to answer some of the questions above.

**Page 7:** The sun is important to plants and animals. The plants need the sun to grow. The sun makes the earth warm enough so that we can live here. The sunflowers in this picture look like the sun. Have the students view the following time lapse video of tomato plants moving towards the sun.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j-dZ3VKjJEw>

**Point:** flowers, butterfly

**WH Questions:** What needs the sun to grow?

**Yes/No:** Does water need the sun to grow? Do plants need the sun to grow? Does the sun help plants?

**Opinion/Experiences:** Do you have any plants at your house?

**Peer to Peer Interaction:** After you read Page 6, ask students, “What needs the sun to grow?” The answer is the main idea card “plants.” Students will find the main idea card and read it to their partner. Teacher will prompt them to talk about plants.

**Page 8:** The sun can make electricity. We use electricity to turn on lights. Televisions need electricity to work. Vacuum cleaners need electricity. Microwaves need electricity to work. When the sun makes electricity, it is called solar energy.

**Point:** solar panels, plug

**WH Questions:** What makes solar energy? What can the sun make? What do we use electricity for?

**Yes/No:** Does the sun make solar energy? Is solar energy when the sun makes electricity?

**Opinion/Experiences:** What are some things in your house that uses electricity?

**Peer to Peer Interaction:** After you read Page 8, ask students, “What does the sun make?” The answer is the main idea card “solar energy.” Students will find the main idea card and read it to their partner. Teacher will prompt them to ask their partner some of the questions talked about above.

**Page 9:** Solar panels make electricity from the sun. The sun shines onto the panels. This helps the panels make electricity. We use electricity to turn on lights. We use electricity to run appliances like the microwave, dishwasher, etc. Have the student view the following video that shows images of solar panels on the roofs of houses. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ue3C84zP1L0>

**Point:** sun, house, windows, roof, solar panels

**WH Questions:** What do some people put on their houses? What do solar panels make?

**Yes/No:** Do some people put solar panels on their houses? Do solar panels make water? Do solar panels make electricity.

**Opinion/Experiences:** What do you use electricity for?

**Peer to Peer Interaction:** After you read Page 9, ask students, “What do some people put on their houses?” The answer is the main idea card “solar panels.” Students will find the main idea card and read it to their partner. Teacher will prompt them to ask their partner some of the questions talked about above.