

Our Star, the Sun



Read the passage. Then answer the questions in full sentences.

Name _____ Date _____

The Sun is a star. A star is a hot, glowing ball of gas. At night we can see many stars, but the light of day comes from the closest star of all: the Sun.

The Sun is about 93 million miles from Earth. That is 400 times farther away than the Moon. The Sun is about 100 times wider than Earth, but it is only an average-sized star. Some stars are 100 times bigger than the Sun, and others are 10 times smaller.

The middle of the Sun, called its core, is the hottest part. It is about 27 million degrees Fahrenheit.

We could not live without the Sun. Its heat keeps Earth warm enough to live on. Without its light there would be no plants or animals, and so no food. Never look straight at the Sun without special eye protection.

1. How far is the Sun from Earth?

2. What is the hottest part of the Sun?

3. Why would there be no food without the Sun?

4. The Sun is 100 times wider than Earth. Why is it still called an average-sized star?

Answer key

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1. How far is the Sun from Earth?
About 93 million miles.
2. What is the hottest part of the Sun?
Its core, the middle of the Sun.
3. Why would there be no food without the Sun?
Because without the Sun's light there would be no plants or animals.
4. The Sun is 100 times wider than Earth. Why is it still called an average-sized star?
Sample answer: because some stars are 100 times bigger than the Sun and others are 10 times smaller, so the Sun is in the middle.