

Mission: Sun

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. What type of celestial body is the Sun?

2. Where is it, or which body does it orbit?

3. Copy an important time period and say what it measures.

4. Copy a temperature or a feature of its environment.

Type	G2 V star
Diameter	1,392,700 km
Mass (Earth = 1)	332,946 Earth masses
Average distance	Centre of the Solar System
Orbital period	≈ 230 million years around the Milky Way
Rotation	≈ 25 days at the equator
Temperature	≈ 5,500 °C at the surface
Main orbiting bodies	8 planets orbit the Sun

5. Choose two figures from the table and explain their units.

6. Explain this comparison in your own words: About 109 Earths placed side by side would span its diameter.

Check and explain

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7. Why is its rotation called differential?

- A. It is solid
- B. Its equator rotates faster than its poles
- C. It changes direction
- D. It does not rotate

8. What is the Sun's visible layer called?

- A. The photosphere
- B. The lithosphere
- C. The troposphere
- D. The magnetosphere

9. Which spacecraft approaches closest to the Sun?

- A. Cassini
- B. Parker Solar Probe
- C. Juno
- D. New Horizons

10. Which gas dominates the Sun?

- A. Oxygen
- B. Nitrogen
- C. Hydrogen
- D. Methane

11. Write two units from the table and the quantities they measure.

12. Why is an illustration not always drawn to scale?

13. Give one similarity and one difference compared with Earth.

Investigate like a scientist

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Text to analyse

The Sun contains almost all the Solar System's mass. In its core, hydrogen fusion releases the energy that lights and warms the worlds around it. The Sun is not solid: its plasma rotates faster at the equator, taking about 25 days, than at the poles, where a rotation takes nearly 35 days. This is called differential rotation.

14. Copy one observation or checkable fact from the text.

15. Write a scientific question you would like to investigate.

Writing mini-mission

Imagine a spacecraft studying the Sun. Describe what it observes and what it aims to measure. Write 5 to 7 sentences using at least three scientific terms. Do not invent a solid surface on a gas giant or present a hypothesis as a fact.

Scientific terms used: _____