

Teaching: Sun

Teacher guide - A 55 to 70 minute lesson

Main question

What can we say about the Sun using evidence? How do we distinguish an observation, a model and a conclusion?

Locate

Identify the type of body (g2 v star) and locate it in the Solar System.

Describe

Extract accurate features from a scientific fact sheet.

Compare

Compare sizes, periods, temperatures or composition with Earth.

Reason

Distinguish a fact from a simplified representation and a conclusion.

Explain and write

Support an explanation with a figure and a source; write a short exploration report.

Curriculum adaptation

Based on French Cycle 3, roughly ages 9-12, and adaptable to other primary and secondary settings. It is not an official UK or US curriculum. Choose tasks suited to your learners.

Lesson sequence

English learning edition - September 2026

0-5 min | Spark curiosity

Project the world and collect initial ideas without confirming them yet.

5-15 min | Read and locate

Identify the type of body, its location, two figures and one remarkable fact.

15-27 min | Compare

Complete the first activity page. Ask students to justify answers using data.

27-40 min | Reason

Answer the multiple-choice questions. Explain why the other options are incorrect.

40-52 min | Investigate

Analyse a scientific text and separate observations, interpretations and conclusions.

52-70 min | Write and summarise

Write the mini-mission. Finish with: I know..., my evidence is..., I wonder...

Adapt, assess and check

English learning edition - September 2026

Support and challenge

To support learners: read instructions aloud, explain vocabulary and allow spoken answers. To consolidate: require data in each explanation. To extend: explicitly distinguish observation, interpretation and conclusion.

Locates and classifies the body correctly. Secure / Revisit

Gives two accurate characteristics. Secure / Revisit

Supports a comparison with data. Secure / Revisit

Explains at least one limitation of the model. Secure / Revisit

Distinguishes evidence, hypothesis and proof. Secure / Revisit

Sources and limitations

NASA Science: <https://science.nasa.gov/sun/facts/>

Online fact sheet: <https://systeme-solaire-3d.fr/en/soleil>

Values are rounded. The artistic view changes sizes and distances for readability. Check dated information before reusing it.

Use and credits

Free reproduction for educational classroom use. Sources and image credits retain their own terms. This independent project does not imply institutional endorsement.