The Sun

By Cynthia Sherwood

ou may have heard people use the term "solar energy." They're probably talking about the technology that powers a house or heats a swimming pool. But there's only one place that you can find true "solar energy"—the sun! core, the temperature is 27 million degrees Fahrenheit (15 million Celsius).

The core is where the sun's incredible energy is created. The temperature is so extreme that nuclear reactions take place and energy travels to the surface



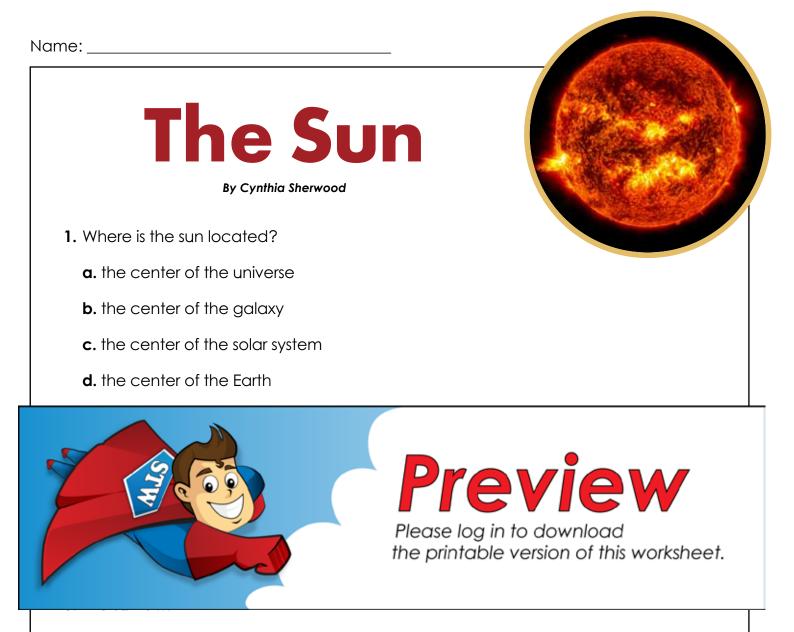
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a glowing ball of fiery gas. The part of the sun that we see has a temperature of 10 thousand degrees Fahrenheit (5,600 degrees Celsius). Inside the sun, at its star, just like the others you see at night. It's about average in size when compared to other stars. But to us here on earth, there's nothing average about the sun!



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- a. the largest known star
- **b.** an average-sized star
- c. a small star
- d. the hottest known star

4. Match the words on the left with the definitions on the right.

1. solar energy	 a. center inside of a ball-shaped object
2. solar system	b. heat, light, or electrical power made from the sun

3. core c. the sun and all of the things that orbit around it

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ANSWER KEY



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- 1. Where is the sun located?
 - a. the center of the universe
 - **b.** the center of the galaxy

c. the center of the solar system

d. the center of the Earth



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