

Sun Posters

In this activity, you and your child will read through 9 informational posters to gain an understanding about our Sun.

What You Need:

- 9 sheets of poster board in different colors
- Large print-outs of the questions and answers in the below boxes
- Color images related to the content
- Glue or tape to adhere the information to the posters

What to Do:

Each of the following should be made into a big, bold, colorful poster with related images.

Poster 1:

Our Sun formed 4.5 billion years ago from a cloud of hydrogen and helium gas and dust.

Poster 2:

Our Sun is a giant ball of hydrogen and helium gas. It makes energy by converting hydrogen into helium in its core.

Poster 3:

While special to us, our Sun is a medium sized yellow star of average brightness.

Poster 4:

How far away is our Sun?

93 million miles!

If Earth were 1 inch across, the Sun would be over 9 feet wide! It would be 985 feet away from the Earth.

What if Earth were the size of a peppercorn? How big would the Sun be? How far away would the Sun be? You will get to make this model soon!

Poster 5:

How big is our Sun?

Station 2: The Size of the Sun goes here.

Poster 6:

Our Sun will shine *as it is* for about another 3 to 5 billion years! (you will be very old when this happens).

Poster 7:

In another 3 to 5 billion years our Sun will use up its interior hydrogen fuel and swell up to become a **red giant** - expanding to engulf Mercury, Venus, and perhaps Earth!

Poster 8:

Eventually the outer layers will be spewed off into space, leaving a cloud of material around a small, hot white dwarf about the size of Earth.

Poster 9:

The material that is spewed off into space will collect into another cloud of hydrogen and helium gas and dust that may form a new star!

Possible Images for Posters

Solar Images

<http://www.noaa.gov/stories2005/images/Sun-soho-05-15-2005-1150z.jpg>

http://apod.nasa.gov/apod/image/0606/Sun2_trace_big.jpg

http://content.answers.com/main/content/wp/en/f/f6/Sun_Earth_size_comparison_labeled.jpg

<http://library.thinkquest.org/C0121764/what/Sunearth.jpg>

http://www.physics.hku.hk/~nature/CD/regular_e/lectures/images/chap15/red_size.jpg

Red Giants

<http://library.thinkquest.org/C0126626/fate/redgiant.gif>

<http://images.iop.org/objects/physicsweb/news/12/2/24/RedGiant.jpg>

<http://www.astro.washington.edu/endsofworld/postcard%20from%20earth%20pic.t.jpg>