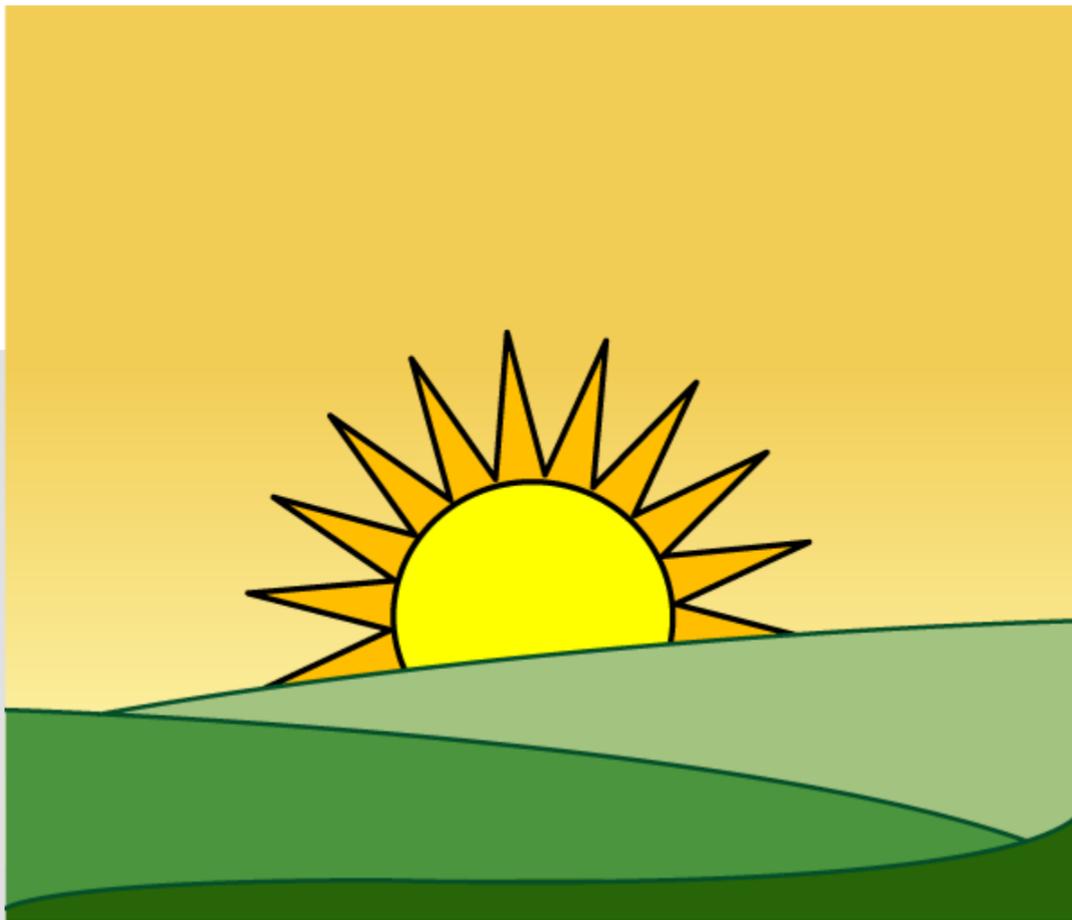


# Here Comes the Sun





### Unit Overview

#### Here Comes the Sun

This unit explores the relationship between Earth and the Sun. Students will learn that the Sun is a star and that Earth revolves around the Sun. Students learn that it is the position of Earth in relation to the Sun that makes day and night and the seasons of the year. Students will also explore how the Sun provides heat and light to Earth.

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## Instructional Target

### Standards for Earth and Space Science

- Identify and explore the relationship between Earth and the Sun.
- Identify the Sun as one of many stars in the universe.
- Recognize the relationship between day and night by referring to Earth's movement on its axis.
- Recognize the relationship between the seasons by referring to Earth's movement around the Sun.



## Differentiated Tasks

### Level 3 Students will...

- Identify the interactions between Earth and the Sun (e.g., Earth rotates on its axis and moves around the Sun).
- Identify the Sun as a star.
- Describe the changes in day and night based on the movement of the Earth.
- Describe the seasons based on the position and movement of the Earth.

### Level 2 Students will...

- Recognize the relationship of Earth and the Sun (e.g., humans live on Earth; the Sun gives Earth heat and light).
- Sort or match the Sun as a star.
- Identify that day and night are caused by the movement of Earth.
- Identify that seasons are caused by the position and movement of the Earth.

### Level 1 Students will...

- Identify Earth and the Sun as part of the solar system.
- Select the Sun.
- Identify day or night.
- Identify a season.



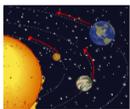
## Standards Connection

### Our Star, the Sun



In the first book of the unit, *Lily's Special Star*, students are introduced to the Sun as a star. Students learn that the Sun is a very important star, which gives Earth heat and light. This unit's Easy Read book, *Our Star, the Sun*, continues to build knowledge of the Sun and its interactions with Earth. Students further explore stars as they read *How to Catch a Star* by Oliver Jeffers in Lesson 13. In Lesson 21, students use their measurement skills to make Smoothie Star Pops.

### Earth on the Move



In the first article of the unit, "Earth On the Move" students learn about Earth's movement around the Sun. Students learn that as Earth spins around, it makes the cycle of day and night. In Lesson 26, students follow steps to make Ice-Dyed Earth T-Shirts. Students are encouraged to wear their T-shirts while working on Lesson 27 as they represent Earth to simulate the day and night cycle. Lesson 19 lets students associate the position of the Sun with familiar times of the day. In Lesson 25, students learn that Earth's tilt on its axis as it revolves around the Sun is what causes the changes in the length of days throughout the year.

### Take a Spin With Earth



Earth spins and also revolves around the Sun. We cannot feel these movements but they are responsible for the changes in weather. Students learn that the tilt of Earth and its movement around the Sun cause our different seasons. The second article of the unit, "Take a Spin With the Earth," shows students how seasons occur. In Lessons 15 and 30, students will be able to write about different seasons of the year. In Lesson 17, students survey and chart which season is the class favorite.

The **n2y Library** has several books that may extend understanding of the relationship between Earth and the Sun:



- *All Around the Sun* (Levels C, A, and aa) briefly describes the planets and their order from the Sun.
- *Our Sun* (Level B) describes things the Sun can do.
- *Space Observatory* (Level E) describes a student's visit to a space observatory.
- *Heat and Light From the Sun* (Level H/I) discusses how the Sun is the center of our solar system.
- *In the Sky* (Levels C, A, aa) identifies items that could be in the sky.
- *Sunrise* (Level H/I) why the Sun looks like it rises and the spin (rotation) of Earth.
- *Space Telescope* (Level E, H/I) describes how the world's strongest telescope helps us learn about space.
- *Stars* (Level H/I) explains what a star is and how stars form constellations.