

Sun Facts

The sun is important to everything on Earth. Light and heat from the sun give warmth and energy to all life on the planet.

But the sun is really just a star. It looks larger because it is much closer to us than other stars. Compared with other stars, the sun is just medium-sized. But compared with Earth, it is very large indeed. If the sun were a hollow ball, it would take one million Earth-size balls to fill it up.

The temperature of any place on Earth depends on the position of the sun. Places near the equator are hot because the sun shines almost directly overhead at noon. On the other hand, places near the North Pole and the South Pole are cold. This is because the sun almost never rises above the horizon there.

Scientists know a good deal about the sun, but they still have much to learn. As they learn, they hope to find better ways to use the sun's power on Earth.

1. Why is the sun important to everything on Earth?
2. Which sun fact did you find most interesting? Why?