

The Sun's Annual Pattern Lessons

Websites

General

The Planetary Society

Offers extensive up-to-date information and pictures of the most current happenings in astronomy.

(http://www.planetary.org/)

Astronomy Picture of the Day

Each day a different picture from space is shown with an information sheet to go along with it. (http://apod.nasa.gov/apod/astropix.html)

StarChild

This child-friendly NASA site offers an enormous amount of information about astronomy for children to explore independently.

(http://starchild.gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/StarChild/StarChild.html)

Science, Optics & You

View the Milky Way at 10 million light years from the Earth. Then move through space towards the Earth in successive orders of magnitude until you reach the subatomic universe of electrons and protons.

(http://micro.magnet.fsu.edu/primer/java/scienceopticsu/powersof10/)

The Sun's Annual Pattern

The Sun's Daily Path Across the Sky

This site provides the teacher with additional information about the sun's apparent movement across the sky during different times of the year.

(http://www.griffithobs.org/skyfiles/skysunspath.html)

Sol Path

This site shows the path of the sun's apparent movement across the sky for different times of the year at different latitudes. Click the corners of the catalogue to change the month. Move the slider on the globe to change latitude.

(http://www.susdesign.com/solpath/)



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Books

The Sun's Annual Pattern

This list includes more books about the sun and books about historical astronomers of medieval and Renaissance times.

Galileo

By Leonard Everett Fisher. (1992, Antheneum)

This age-appropriate book chronicles Galileo's impact on the history of science. It is conveyed with bold simplicity in spare prose and striking black-and-white acrylic paintings.

Galileo and the Stargazers

By Jim Weiss. (1999, Greathall Productions)

Told by master storyteller Jim Weiss, this audio book turns historic icons of science into real people, with tales about Archimedes, Copernicus, Galileo, and Isaac Newton. A 2000 Parents' Choice®Gold Award Winner.

Great Minds of Science

(Enslow Publishers, Inc.)

Books in this series feature several historical astronomers: Copernicus (by Catherine M. Ardronik, 2006), Galileo Galilei (by Paul W. Hightower, 2001), Isaac Newton (by Margaret J. Anderson, 2001), and Tycho Brahe (by Mary Gow, 2002). Written at an upper-elementary reading level, most are only available in hardcover.

Johannes Kepler: Giant of Faith and Science

By John Hudson Tiner; illustrated by Rod Burke. (1999, Mott Media)

This read-aloud book provides a good starting point for learning about the life of Kepler.



Starry Messenger: A Book Depicting the Life of a Famous Scientist, Mathematician, Astronomer, Philosopher, Physicist Galileo Galilei

By Peter Sis. (2000, Farrar, Straus, and Giroux)

In this Caldecott Honor book, the author-illustrator tells the story of Galileo's life in language as simple as a fairy tale, in pictures as complex as a tapestry, and in Galileo's own words. The first man to turn the telescope to the skies, Galileo offered objective evidence that Earth was not the fixed center of the universe, but that it orbited the sun.

The Sun

By Paulette Bourgeois; illustrated by Bill Slavin. (1996, Kids Can Press)
An overview of the sun for independent readers. With both an index and glossary, this reference book also provides children with research skill building.

The Sun

By Seymour Simon. (2001, Perfect Learning)

Presents the sun through over 20 dramatic, full-color photographs and clear text. Discusses the basics of the sun's size, light and heat; also describes the constant nuclear explosions at its core, the sea of boiling gases that form the surface, and the cloud of superheated gases that make up the corona, plus sunspots and flares.