

The Sun in the Sky

Written by Jenny Feely

Illustrations by Alex Stitt

Level 12

Getting ready for reading

You might ask: *What do you know about the sun? Why do you think we have day and night? Where is the sun at night-time?*

Talking through the book

Introduce the book and ask the children pose questions that they think that it might answer.

List these on a chart.

Turn to page 5 and discuss with the children how such diagrams can be read.

Reading the book

Children read the book individually while the teacher observes each child's reading behaviours and prompts children to use cues to read unfamiliar words. The teacher may select an additional teaching focus based on these observations.

Returning to the text

Select the most appropriate teaching focus for the learning needs of the group. Choose one or more of the following.

Being a meaning maker

Encourage the children to support their answers with evidence from the book as they discuss these questions.

Where is the sun at night?

Does the sun move around the earth?

When can the moon be seen in the sky?

Being a code breaker

Children may like to explore the following language features:

- the rime /y/ as found in *sky* to build words: *by, cry, dry, fly, my, sty, try*

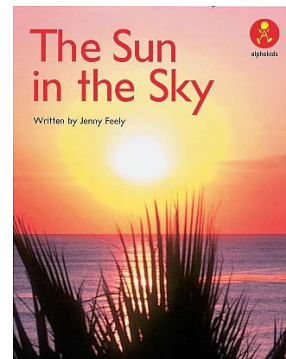
Being a text user

Refer to the questions posed before reading the book and discuss:

Which questions did the book provide answers for?

Which questions were not answered?

Which questions were only partly answered?



TEXT FEATURES

- **This book is an information report that focuses on the earth's relationship to the sun.**
- **It features labelled diagrams and full-colour photography.**
- **There are up to seven lines of text per page.**
- **Illustrations present the information from the text diagrammatically.**
- **There is an index.**

Being a text critic

Discuss:

The author has included diagrams throughout the book. Why do you think she did this?

What other diagrams could be used?

Literacy learning centres – follow-up activities

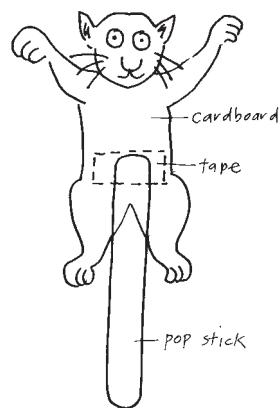
WRITING CENTRE

Children can retell the text in their own words to make posters about the sky to display around the room.

In small groups, children could make a sky mobile by drawing and labeling the objects in space.

INTERACTIVE LITERACY CENTRE

Children can make stick puppets to use in a puppet play to share the information from the book with others. Blackline Master 7 provides instructions for making simple stick puppets.



WORD CENTRE 1

Have children work in cooperative groups to select specific words from the text to make a glossary for the book. Useful words to use may be *sun, sky, moon, earth, sunlight, eclipse, clouds, night, day, rainbow, reflects*.

WORD CENTRE 2

Student can explore onset and rime using magnetic letters and focusing on selected words from the book:

sky – by, cry, dry, fly, my, try

sun – bun, fun, gun, nun, pun, run, stun

moon – boon, croon, noon, soon, spoon

Keeping track

Annotating a child's work provides a useful record of their development. This can be used to compare development over time.