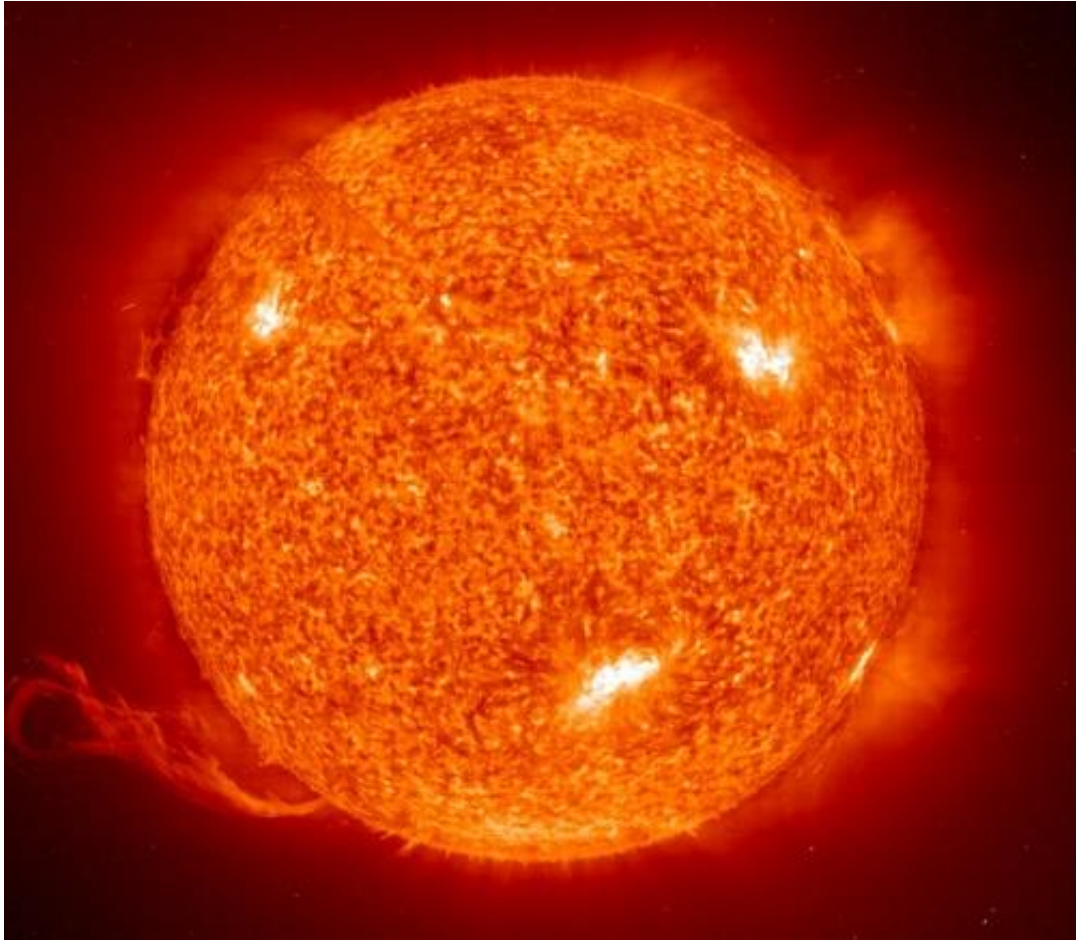


The Sun



The Sun

What is the Sun?

The Sun, with its heat and light is the source of life on earth. Although it is special to us, it is just an ordinary star, one among billions in the Universe. The other stars are too far away for us to feel their heat, but we can see their light.

Why is the Sun hot?

The Sun is a huge ball of hot gas. The Sun's energy (or heat) is produced by nuclear reactions at its centre where the temperature of the gas is 15 million degrees Celsius! The gas, swirling around within the Sun, carries the energy to the Sun's surface, where it spreads into space as light and heat. The Sun's light is so bright that it can damage the eyes if looked at directly and can even cause blindness. The Sun looks brighter than other stars because it is closer to the Earth

How big is the Sun?

The Sun is 1.4 million km (865,000 miles) wide. It could swallow more than a million Earths and it is over 300,000 times heavier.

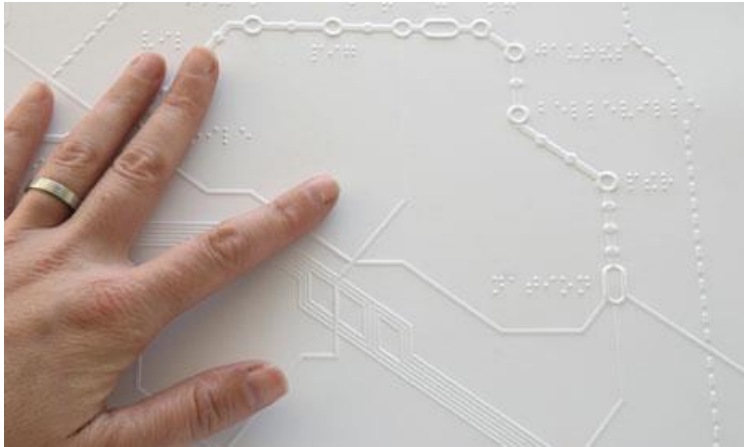
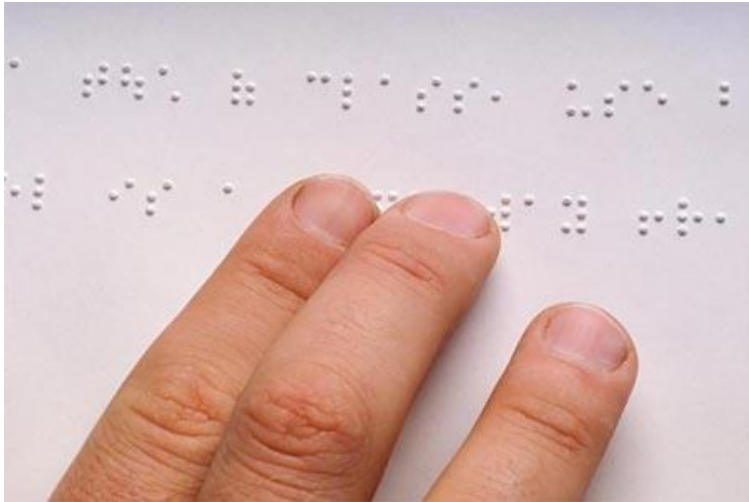
Why do the planets orbit around the Sun?

Because the Sun is so heavy, it has a very powerful gravity and this gravitational pull holds the planets in their orbits, just as the Earth's gravity stops us from flying out into space.

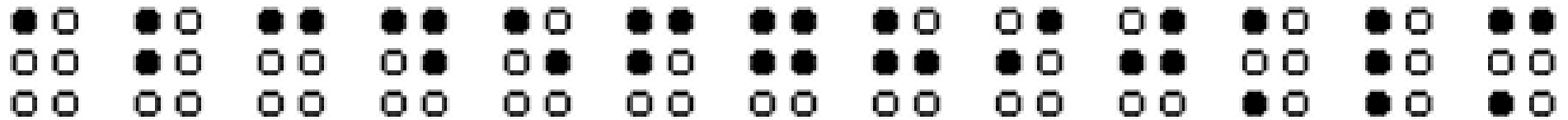
How far away is the Sun?

The Sun is 150 million kilometres (93 million miles) away from the Earth. It would take us years to reach it. If the Sun died we wouldn't know about it for just over 8 minutes because that is how long it takes the Sun's light to reach us (light travels at 300,000 km per second!). Energy from the Sun travels through space. It reaches Earth and warms the ground. Energy from the Sun gives us heat and light.

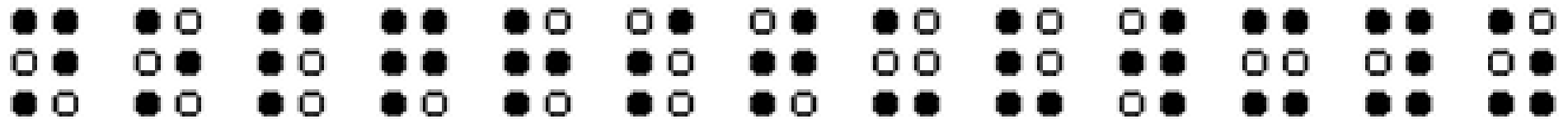
Braille in Use



Braille Alphabet

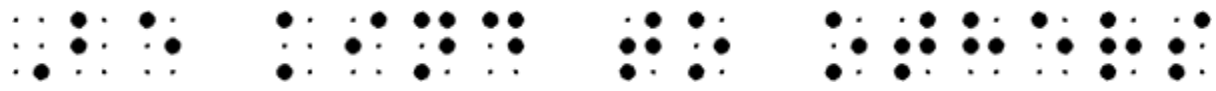



A B C D E F G H I J K L M



N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z

Sample text



The sign for a full stop is .

Transliteration: 'Be kind to others' (the first single dot means a capital letter follows - in this example the letter B)

Write a short sentence in Braille:

Name: _____

