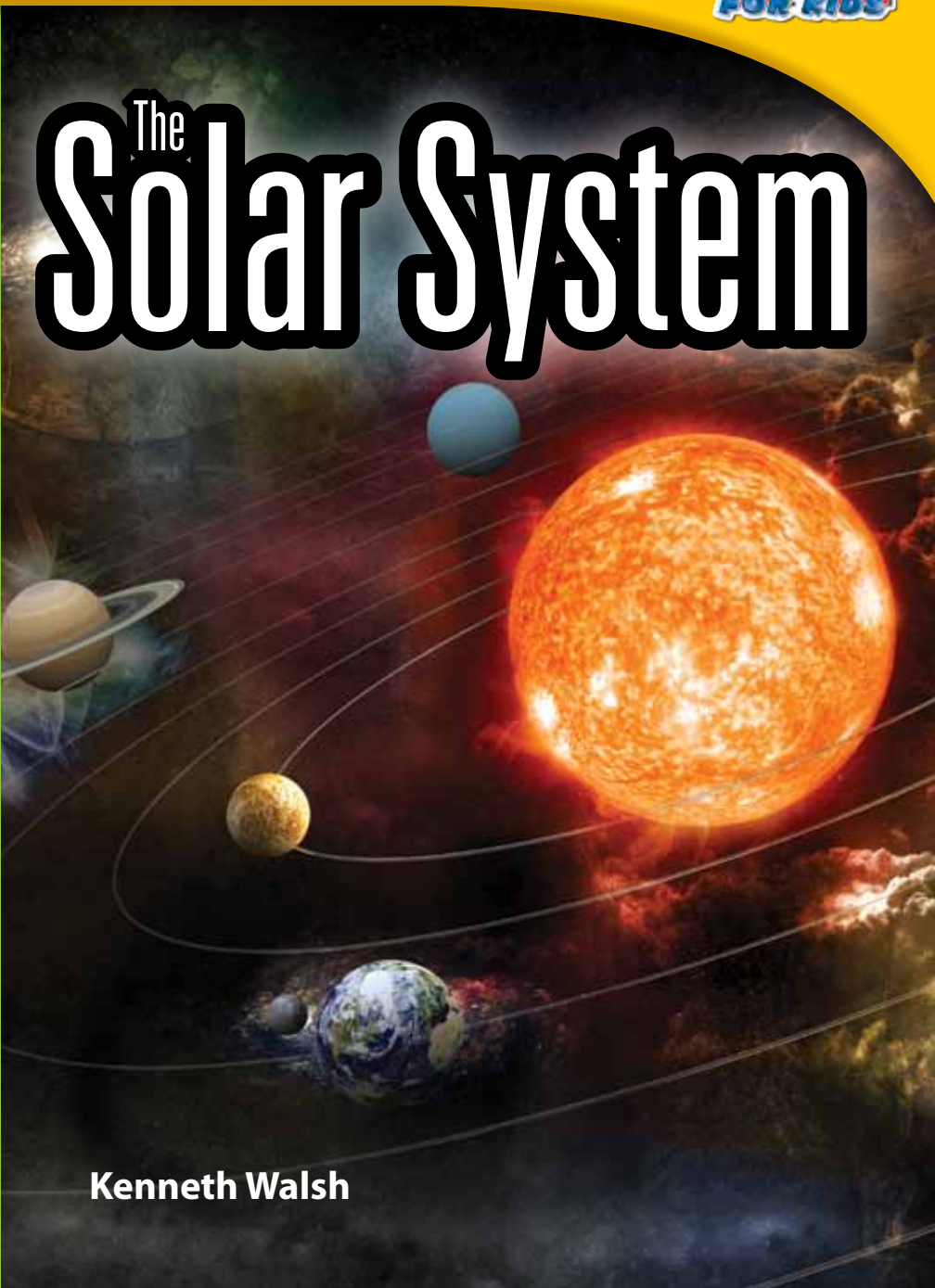
TIME FOR KIDS

The Solar System



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Moving Around the Sun

Think of yourself standing on the ground. The ground is on Earth, and Earth is moving in space around the **sun**.

The sun is the center of our **solar system**. You and everything else on Earth are moving in **orbit** around it.



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Orbiting the Sun

An orbit is the path a planet follows when it moves around the sun. Each planet has a different orbit, and each orbit takes a different amount of time to complete. To read more about orbits, turn to page 22.

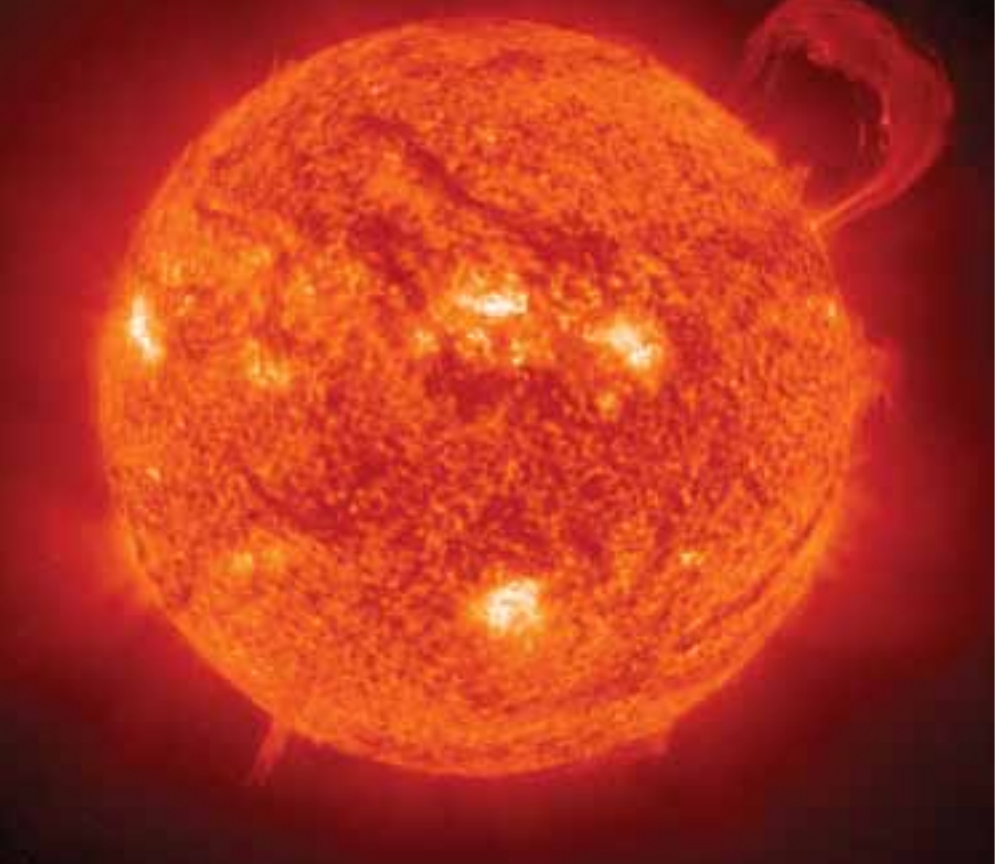
One Sun

The center of our solar system is the sun. *Solar* means sun.

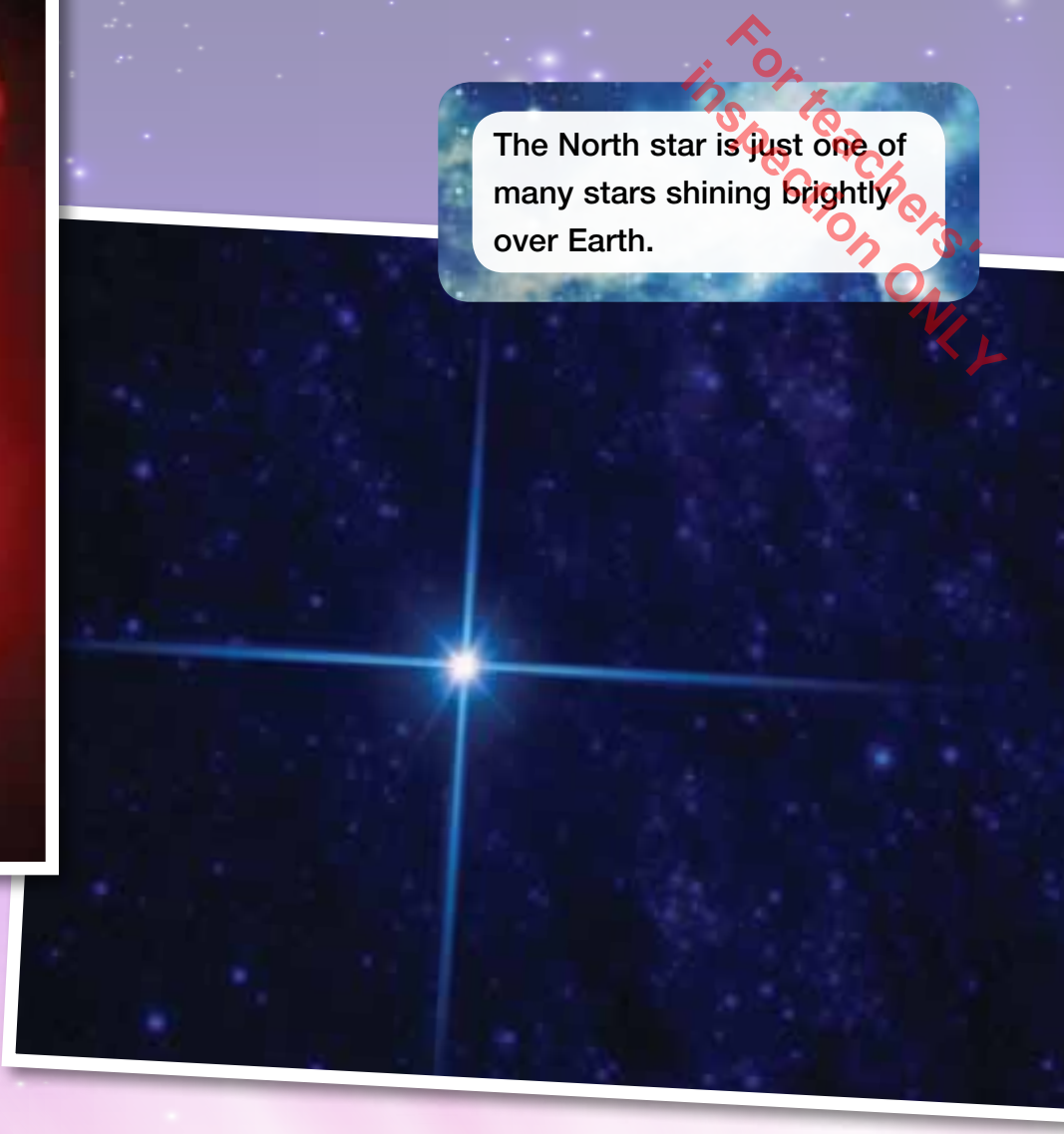
The sun is very large. It is hard to imagine its size. Can you imagine the size of Earth? As big as Earth is, the sun is a million times bigger!



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From Earth, the sun looks like a big, yellow ball. But it is not really like a ball. It is made of gases and metals. It is also very hot. Nothing can live on the sun. But it is a good thing the sun is so hot. The sun's heat makes Earth warm enough for people to live.



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The sun is actually a star, just like the other stars in the night sky. But it is much nearer to Earth than the other stars are.