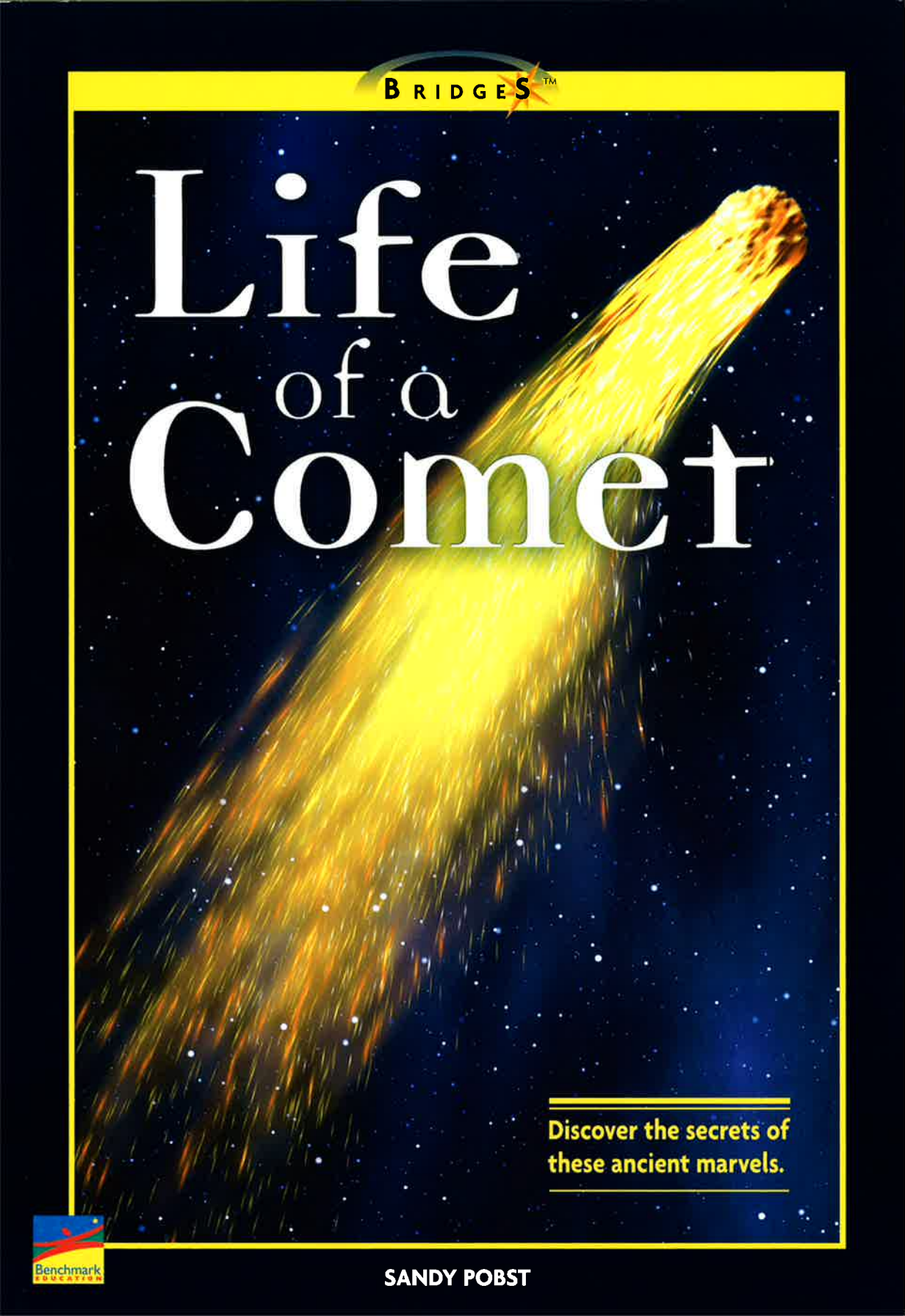
BRIDGES™

Life of a Comet



Discover the secrets of these ancient marvels.

SANDY POBST

Benchmark EDUCATION

SCIENCE
The Universe
Level 40 Q

For teachers' inspection ONLY

READING

Comprehension Skill:
Identify Main Idea and Supporting Details

As you read, ask yourself what details are connected. Use those details to identify main ideas in the book.

Phonics/Word Study:
Word ending **-le**

As you read, look for words that end in **-le**, like **people**. This sound in a syllable rhymes with the word **hull**.

Look for these text and graphic features.

Text Features

- Table of contents
- Introduction
- Sidebars
- Conclusion
- Glossary
- Index
- Information about the author
- Vocabulary words in boldfaced type
- Captions for photos, diagrams, and illustrations
- Bulleted lists. Page 7
- Checkpoints. Check yourself to see that you understand what you have read. Pages 14, 28

Graphic Features

- Photographs
- Tables. Pages 5, 9, 13
- Map. Pages 27, 28
- Time line. Pages 18–19
- Labeled diagrams. Pages 4, 8
- Experiment. Pages 10–11
- Flowchart. Page 30

SCIENCE

The Big Idea:

As you read this book, you will find out why comets fascinate scientists and why people study them. You will explore the parts of a comet and how they change as comets move through space. The different types of comets will be explained. You will also understand more about the life of a comet, from its formation to its eventual death.

Look for these special information features.

Content Sidebars

- It's a Fact. Pages 6, 9, 19
- Math Matters. Page 5
- Historical Perspective. Page 12
- Q & A. Page 17
- Careers. Page 25
- Everyday Science. Page 27
- They Made a Difference. Pages 7, 15, 21
- Eyewitness Account. Pages 23, 29

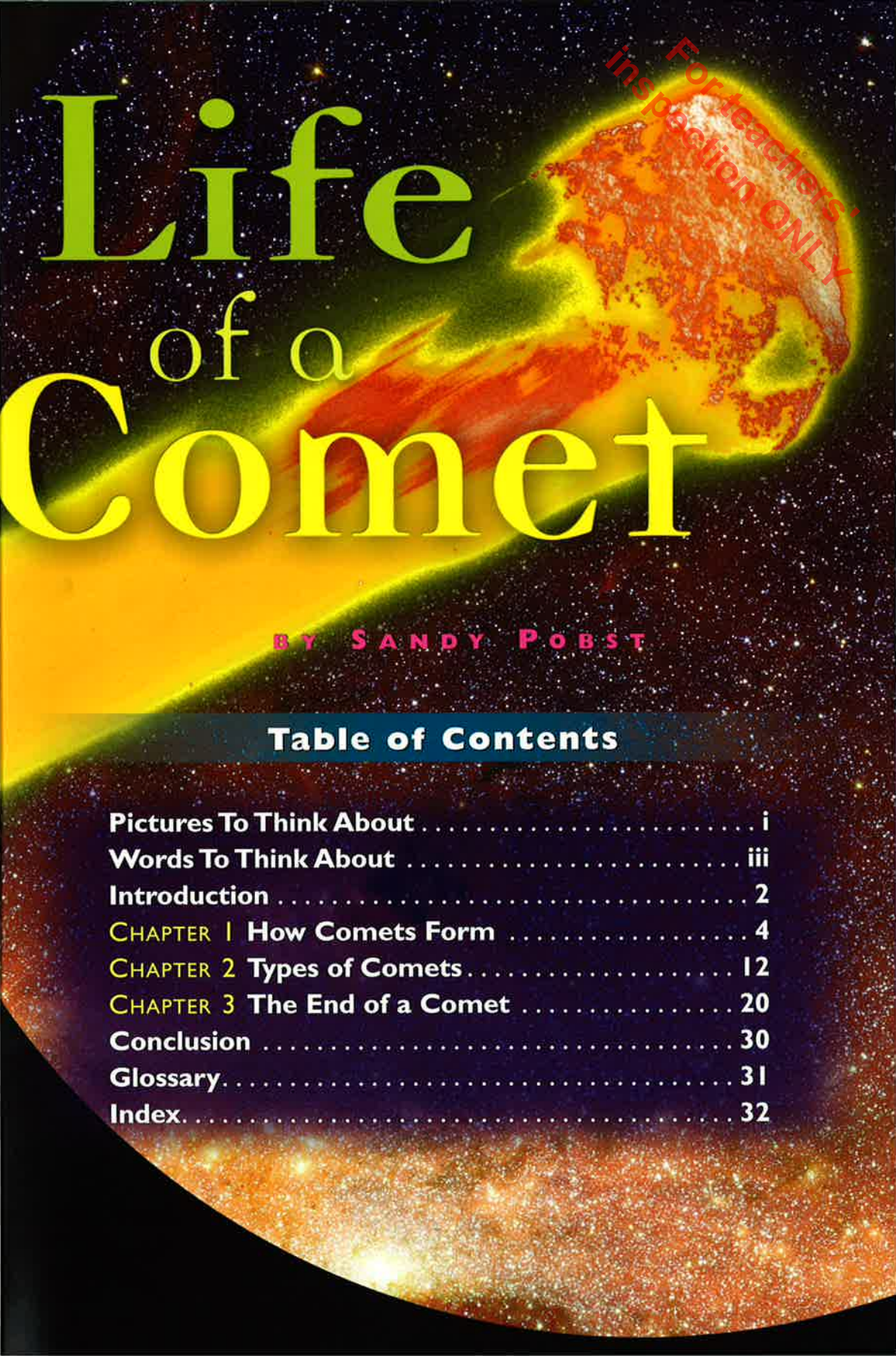
Content Vocabulary

asteroid
astronomer
atmosphere
coma
comet
elliptical
nucleus
orbit
period
probe
solar system
sungrazer
universe

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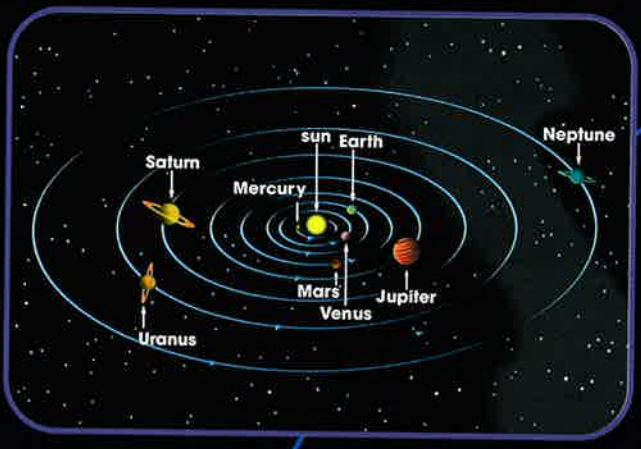
BY SANDY POBST

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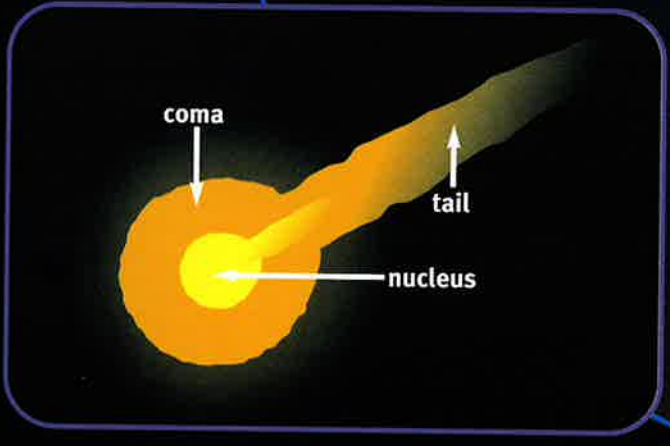
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Pictures To Think About

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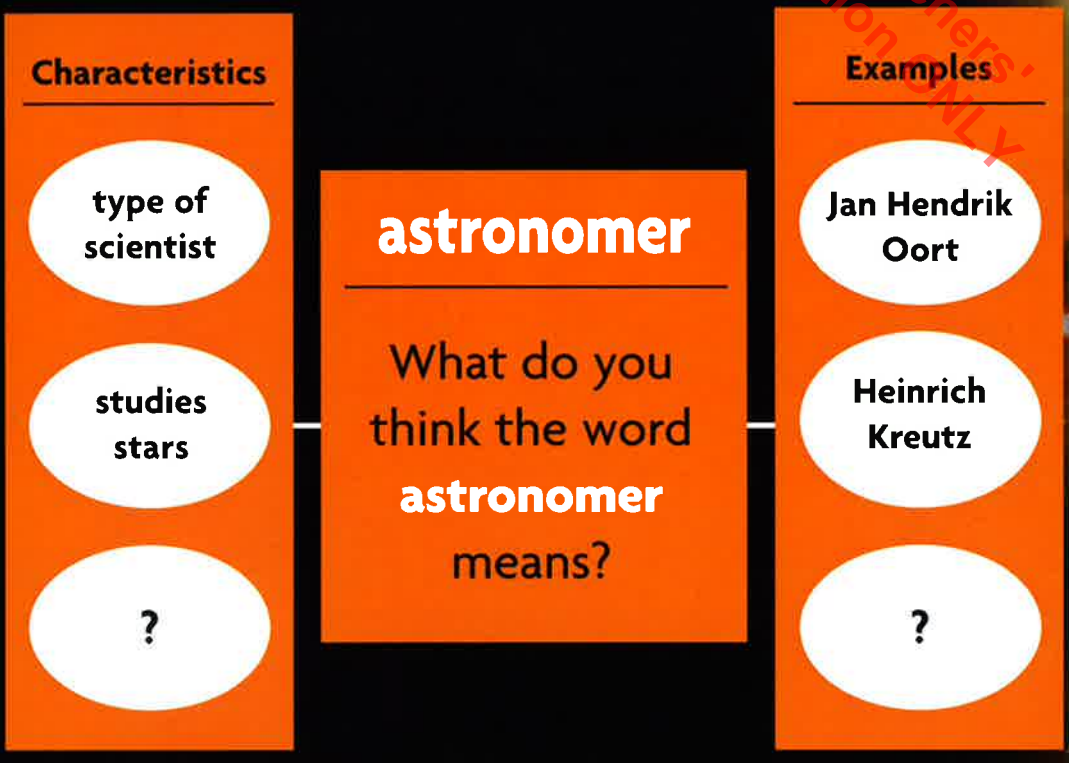


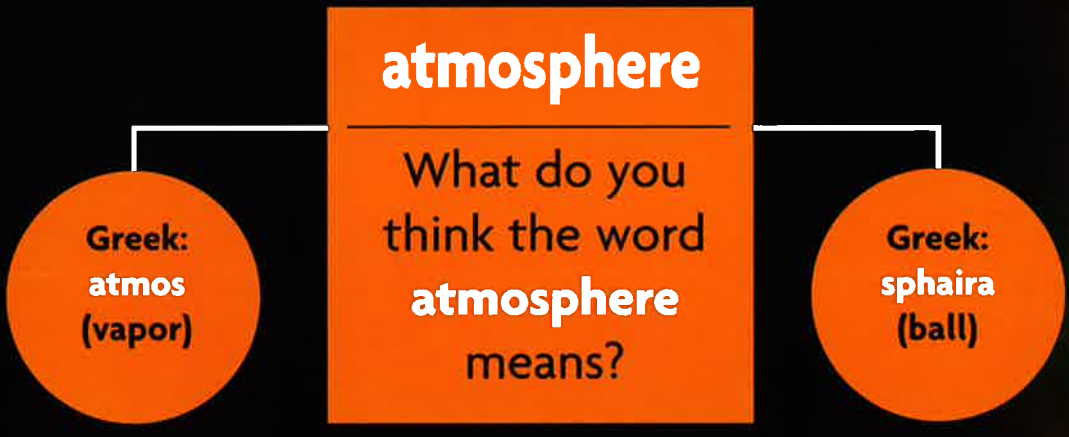




Words To Think About

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Read for More Clues

astronomer, page 6
atmosphere, page 7
coma, page 8

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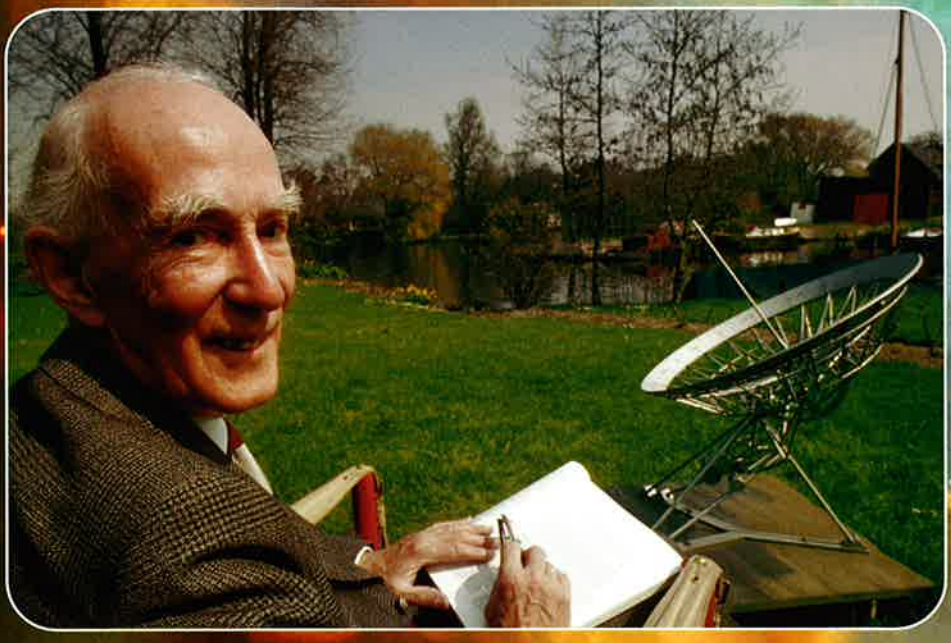
coma

What do you think the word **coma** means in this book?

Meaning 1
the head of a comet, including the nucleus (noun)

Meaning 2
state of unconsciousness (noun)

Meaning 3
tufts of silky hair at the ends of a seed (noun)



Introduction

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The night sky is full of objects. Some, like the stars, are easy to see. Other objects hide in the cold, dark **solar system** (SOH-luhr SIHS-tuhm). Sometimes heat from the sun reaches these frozen objects. The objects begin to glow. Some look like bright, fuzzy stars moving across the sky. Others have a long, bright tail. These frozen objects are **comets** (KAH-muhts).

