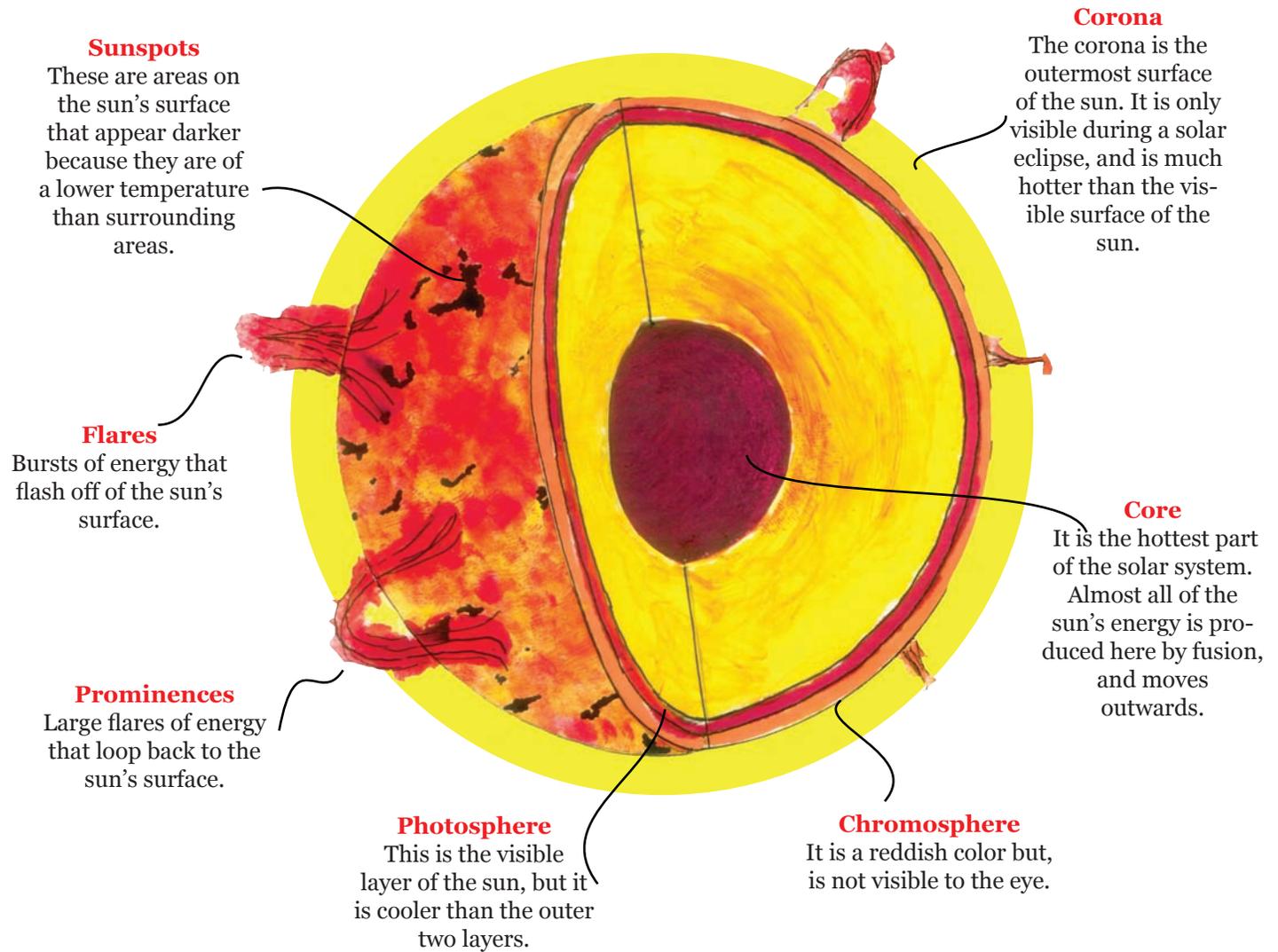


The Sun

The sun is our star. All of the planets in our solar system orbit around it. It is made of very hot gases, mostly hydrogen and helium, that provide the light and heat for our solar system. Answer the questions at the bottom of the page using what you have learned.



Questions

What is the difference between a flare and a prominence?

What part of the sun produces the majority of heat and light?

What two parts of the sun's outer layer are only visible from Earth during a solar eclipse?

Why are sunspots darker than surrounding areas?

What part of the sun do we see from Earth?

The Sun

Answer Sheet

What is the difference between a flare and a prominence?

A flare flashes off of the sun's surface, while a prominence loops back to the sun's surface.

What part of the sun produces the majority of heat and light?

The core produces the majority of the sun's heat and light.

What two parts of the sun's outer layer are only visible from Earth during a solar eclipse?

The corona and the chromosphere are both visible during a solar eclipse, but normally are not visible to the naked eye.

Why are sunspots darker than surrounding areas?

Sunspots are darker than surrounding areas because they are a lower temperature.

What part of the sun do we see from Earth?

We can see the photosphere from Earth.