

MAGIC MAILBOX

Ever wonder what the Sun is? The Sun is a star! You may not think of it that way because you see the Sun during the day and other stars at night. But there are always lots of stars in the sky – day and night. It’s just that the bright light from the Sun, which is the closest star to Earth, keeps us from seeing any other stars during the day.

Ever wonder what a star is? Planets and the Moon are all solid things that we can see in the night sky. But a star is a big glowing ball of gas that moves and swirls around in space. There are billions of stars in space. Some are brighter than others; the brighter ones are the ones we can see from Earth. **Ever wonder why the Sun and other stars rise and set in the sky?** The Earth is always turning around and around -- but the Sun stays still. This means we only see the Sun during the part of the day when our part of the Earth is facing in the Sun’s direction. At night, we are facing away from the Sun and can’t see it. But the Sun is still shining – just on the other side of the Earth! The turning of the Earth makes the Sun and other stars seem to rise and set.

Postcard Picture: Print this page, cut out the picture and tape it to your little scientist’s postcard.

