



Science Page Reader

Common Core Anchor Reading Standard 2. Determine central ideas or themes of a text and analyze their development; summarize the key supporting details and ideas.

When people looked at the stars long ago, they saw patterns. They did not understand everything about what they saw. Then Galileo invented the telescope, and people could see distant objects in the sky more clearly. They kept looking to learn more. That is what astronomers do. Like all scientists, they ask questions and look for information to answer their questions.

Earth is a planet scientists have studied most because it's right here. Our planet is in a galaxy called the Milky Way. The sun is a big star in our part of this giant galaxy. Our galaxy holds millions of other stars. The sun is very important to our planet. The sun gives us light during the day. It gives us heat, too.

Earth orbits around the sun once each year. It travels once around the sun every 365 days. The other eight planets in our solar system also orbit around the sun. They all travel in the same direction. They travel at different speeds.

Scientists are still learning about our galaxy. Today we have much more powerful telescopes. And we send space ships far into the galaxy to collect information. Then scientists study that data and answer questions and find more. Science is about thinking; scientists ask questions, find answers, and think about the answers. Then they ask more questions.

1

2

3

4

What is the main idea of this passage?