

CHAPTER 2

**Main Idea Activities 2.1
Earth in Space**

VOCABULARY Some terms to understand:

- **expanding (25):** increasing in size; growing larger
- **vast (25):** huge; immense; limitless
- **asteroids (25):** small celestial bodies
- **generate (26):** produce; make; create
- **supergiants (27):** stars of very great brightness and enormous size
- **barren (27):** infertile; sterile; not capable of producing new life or growth
- **fixed (28):** established; unchanging; immovable

ORGANIZING INFORMATION Use the following items to complete the chart below.

- orbits Earth every 29.5 days
- operates like a giant thermonuclear reactor
- third planet from the Sun
- about 240,000 miles from Earth
- diameter of 865,000 miles
- diameter of about 8,000 miles

Sun	Earth	Moon
• small compared to supergiants	•	•
•	• fifth-largest of the nine planets	•
•	•	• volcanic surface with many craters

EVALUATING INFORMATION Mark each statement *T* if it is true or *F* if it is false.

- _____ 1. Astronomers believe that the universe is 10 to 20 million years old.
- _____ 2. Since its birth, the universe has been decreasing in size.
- _____ 3. The galaxy in which we live is called the Milky Way.
- _____ 4. The enormous size of the Sun attracts the other objects in the solar system through gravity.
- _____ 5. The four inner planets are Mercury, Venus, Earth, and Mars.
- _____ 6. All of the five outer planets have a solid, rocky surface.
- _____ 7. Planets are visible to us because they reflect sunlight.

Chapter 2 Main Idea Activities 2.1, continued

- _____ **8.** Earth and the other planets are perfectly round.
- _____ **9.** Another term for planet is satellite.
- _____ **10.** The gravitational pull of the Moon and Sun causes ocean tides on Earth.
- _____ **11.** All life on Earth depends on solar energy.
- _____ **12.** Rotation, revolution, and tilt affect the amount of solar energy received at different locations on Earth.

REVIEWING FACTS Choose the correct items from the following list to complete the statements below.

solar energy	moons	planets
satellites	rotation	spheroid
revolution	solar system	axis

- 1.** The Sun and the group of bodies that revolve around the Sun are called the _____.
- 2.** _____ are major bodies that orbit a star.
- 3.** The slight variation of a perfect sphere is called an oblate _____.
- 4.** _____ are smaller objects that orbit a planet.
- 5.** Moons are natural _____.
- 6.** _____ comes from the Sun and reaches Earth as light and heat.
- 7.** Earth's _____ can be thought of as an imaginary rod that runs through the planet from the North Pole to the South Pole.
- 8.** One complete spin of Earth on its axis is one _____, which takes 24 hours.
- 9.** Earth makes one elliptical orbit, or _____, around the Sun every 365 1/4 days.

CHAPTER 1**SECTION 1 ACTIVITIES****Organizing Information**

Five Themes: Location, Place, Human-Environment Interaction, Movement, Region;
Six Essential Elements: The World in Spatial Terms, Places and Regions, Physical Systems, Human Systems, Environment and Society, The Uses of Geography

Evaluating Information

- | | |
|------|-------|
| 1. T | 7. F |
| 2. T | 8. T |
| 3. F | 9. F |
| 4. T | 10. T |
| 5. T | 11. F |
| 6. F | 12. T |

Reviewing Facts

1. geography
2. perspective
3. landscape
4. cartography
5. meteorology
6. region
7. functional region
8. perception
9. perceptual region

SECTION 2 ACTIVITIES**Classifying Information**

- | | |
|------|------|
| 1. c | 5. g |
| 2. e | 6. b |
| 3. h | 7. f |
| 4. a | 8. d |

Evaluating Information

- | | |
|------|-------|
| 1. F | 8. F |
| 2. T | 9. T |
| 3. F | 10. F |
| 4. F | 11. T |
| 5. T | 12. F |
| 6. T | 13. T |
| 7. T | 14. T |

Understanding Main Ideas

1. d
2. c
3. a

CHAPTER 2**SECTION 1 ACTIVITIES****Organizing Information**

Sun—diameter of 865,000 miles, operates like a giant thermonuclear reactor; Earth—third planet from the Sun, diameter of about 8,000 miles; Moon—about 240,000 miles from Earth, orbits Earth every 29.5 days

Evaluating Information

- | | |
|------|-------|
| 1. F | 7. T |
| 2. F | 8. F |
| 3. T | 9. F |
| 4. T | 10. T |
| 5. T | 11. T |
| 6. F | 12. T |

Reviewing Facts

1. solar system
2. planets
3. spheroid
4. moons
5. satellites
6. solar energy
7. axis
8. rotation
9. revolution

SECTION 2 ACTIVITIES**Organizing Information**

Tropics—receives a lot of solar energy all year, generally warm, near the equator; Middle Latitudes—receives very little solar energy, cold most of the time, surrounds North and South Poles; Polar Regions—amount of solar energy received varies, between the tropics and the polar regions, warm or cool, depending on time of year

Evaluating Information

- | | |
|------|-------|
| 1. T | 8. F |
| 2. T | 9. T |
| 3. F | 10. T |
| 4. T | 11. F |
| 5. T | 12. T |
| 6. F | 13. T |
| 7. F | 14. F |

Understanding Main Ideas

- | | |
|------|------|
| 1. a | 3. d |
| 2. a | 4. c |