

Glossary

Purple words and phrases are Core Vocabulary for the unit. **Bold-faced words and phrases** are Language of Instruction, additional vocabulary terms related to the unit that you should model for students during instruction. Vocabulary words are not intended for use in isolated drill or memorization.

B

Big Dipper, n. one of the most recognizable groups of stars visible in the night sky; seven stars in the constellation Ursa Major (the Great Bear) that provide a reference point from which to find the North Star, Polaris

bright, adj. giving off or reflecting a lot of light

C

change, v. to become different; to make something different (also n. a difference from something's former condition)

circle, n. a round shape; all points on a circle's curved line are the same distance from its center

constellation, n. a group of stars that make a recognizable pattern

crescent, n. a curved bowl shape that is thicker in the center and thinner and pointed at the ends

crescent moon, n. a phase of the visible moon that is not a complete circle but a curved shape with pointed ends

D

dark, adj. with little or no light, not light

data, n. information that is observed or measured and recorded

daylight, n. natural light from the sun during the day

daytime, n. the period of time between the sunrise and sunset

direction, n. the path along which something moves or the point toward which something is aimed

E

east, n. the direction toward the horizon where the sun rises

F

full moon, n. the phase of the moon in which a full circular shape is visible

G

graph, n. a drawing or chart that shows mathematical information with lines, shapes, and colors (also v. to make a chart to show mathematical information)

I

identify, v. to indicate what something is

investigate, v. to observe and study something to collect information

L

light, n. the type of energy that makes vision possible (also v. to brighten)

M

moon, n. the large bright object in the sky that travels around Earth

move, v. to change position (movement, n. the process of changing position)

N

new moon, n. the phase of the moon when its dark side faces toward Earth so it is barely visible

nighttime, n. the time between the sunset and sunrise

north, n. the direction to the left of someone facing east and opposite of south, in line with Earth's North Pole

notice, v. to see and pay attention to something

O

observe, v. to watch something and notice details about it (observation, n. the process of noticing details or a specific detail that is noticed)

P

pattern, n. a reliable system of traits or a set of repeating details

phase, n. a step in a series of events or actions

point of reference, n. something that is used to understand something else through a comparison

Polaris (North Star), n. the brightest star in the constellation Ursa Minor, visible straight above Earth's North Pole

position, n. the spot where a thing is located

predict, v. to say that something is expected to happen

predictable, adj. expected because of a pattern or evidence

Q

quarter moon, n. a view in which half of the moon reflects sunlight and half is in darkness

R

rise, v. to move upward, opposite of *set*

S

set, v. to move down, opposite of *rise*

shape, n. the form or outline of an object

sky, n. the space over Earth where the sun, moon, stars, and clouds appear

south, n. the direction to the right of someone facing east and opposite of north, in line with Earth's South Pole

star, n. an object in space that gives off its own light

sun, n. the star that Earth moves around and that provides Earth with light and heat

sunrise, n. the time at which the sun appears above the horizon in the morning

sunset, n. the time when the sun falls below the horizon in the evening

U

universe, n. all of space and everything in it, including stars

V

visible, adj. able to be seen

W

west, n. the direction toward the horizon where the sun sets