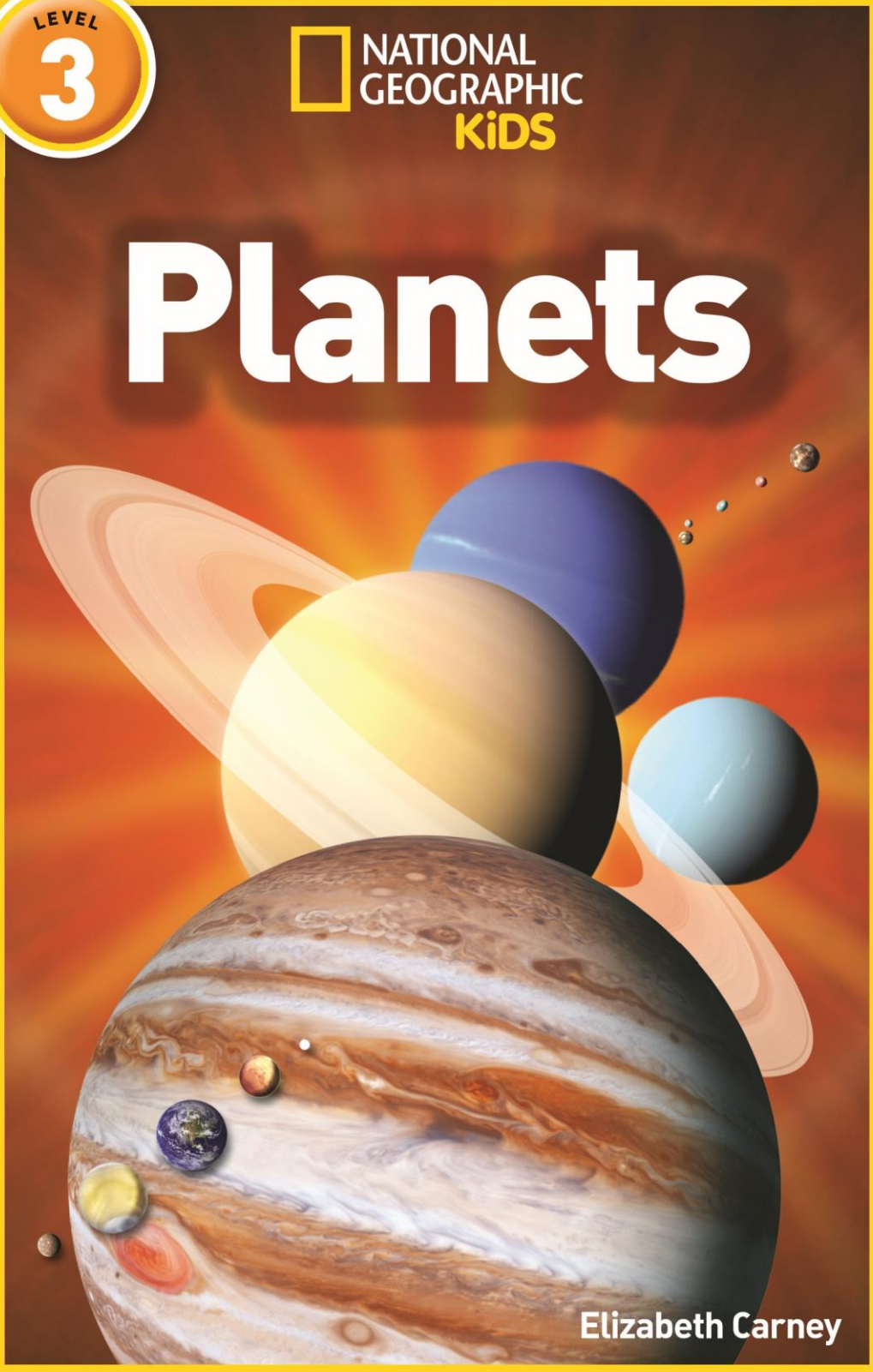
LEVEL 3

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC KIDS

Planets



Elizabeth Carney

Every National Geographic Kids Reader is carefully selected to match your child's reading ability.

Level 1 • Early reader

Level 1 These books contain simple sentences and are just right for kids who can decode with ease and are beginning to read fluently. They are ideal for readers of **Yellow** and **Blue** banded books.

Level 2 • Becoming fluent

Level 2 These books are a good match for kids who are developing reading stamina and enjoy a longer book. They are ideal for readers of **Green**, **Orange** and **Turquoise** banded books.

Level 3 • Becoming independent

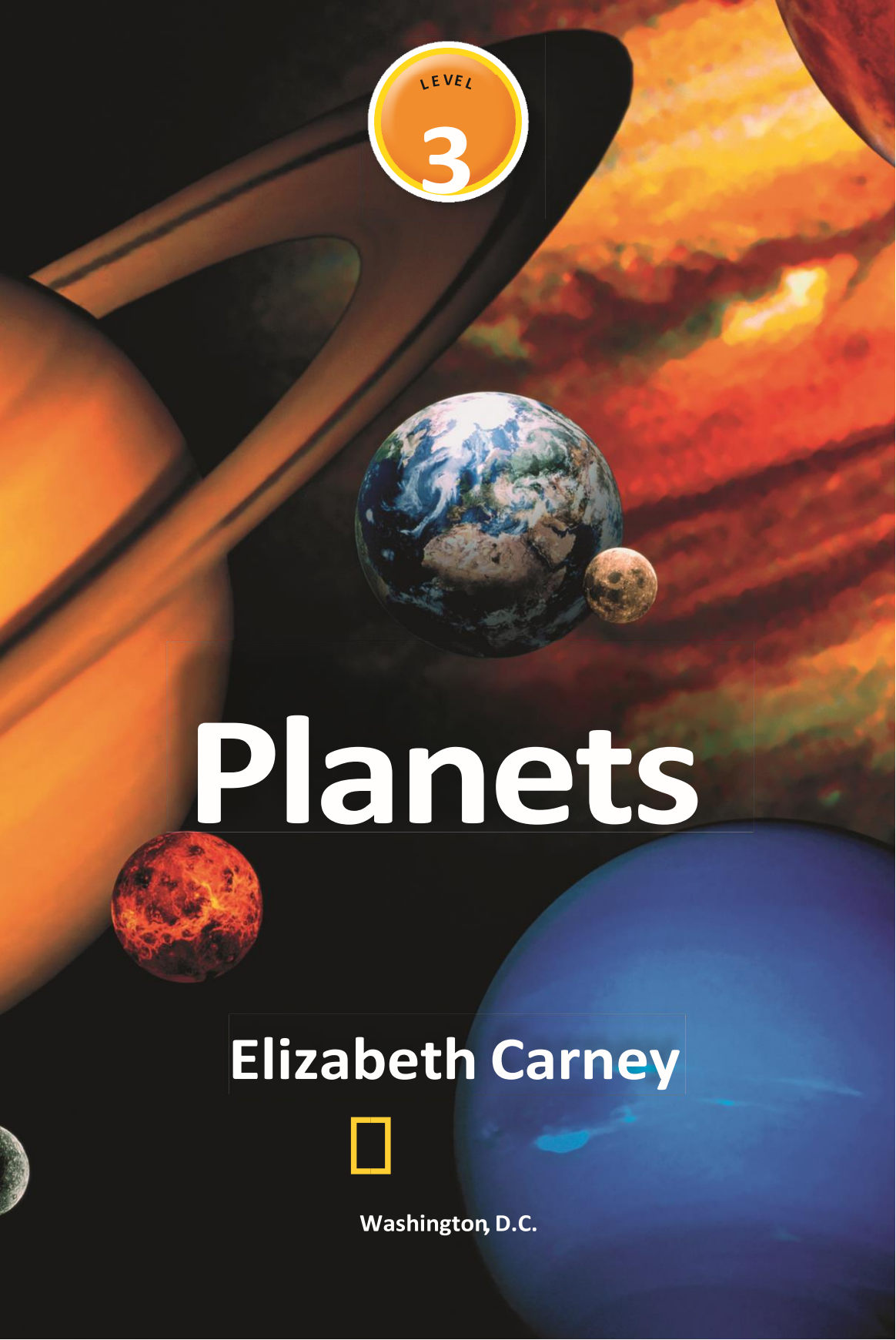
Level 3 Best suited to kids who are ready for complex sentences and more challenging vocabulary, but still draw on occasional support from adults. They are ideal for readers of **Purple** and **Gold** banded books.

Level 4 • Independent reader

Level 4 Perfect for kids who are reading on their own with ease and are ready for more challenging vocabulary with varied sentence

structures. They are ideal for readers of **White** and **Lime** banded books.

'Banded books' refers to the Institute of Education (University of London) Book Bands for guided reading.



Planets

Elizabeth Carney

Washington, D.C.

Published by Collins
An imprint of HarperCollinsPublishers
The News Building
1 London Bridge Street
London
SE1 9GF

Browse the complete Collins catalogue at
www.collins.co.uk

In association with National Geographic Partners, LLC

NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC and the Yellow Border Design are trademarks of the National Geographic Society, used under license.

Second edition 2018
First published 2012

Copyright ©2012 National Geographic Partners, LLC. All Rights Reserved.
Copyright ©2018 British English edition National Geographic Partners, LLC. All Rights Reserved.

ISBN 978-0-00-831729-4
10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise without the prior permission in writing of the publisher and copyright owners.

The contents of this publication are believed correct at the time of printing. Nevertheless the publisher can accept no responsibility for errors or omissions, changes in the detail given or for any expense or loss thereby caused.

HarperCollins does not warrant that any website mentioned in this title will be provided uninterrupted, that any website will be error free, that defects will be corrected, or that the website or the server that makes it available are free of viruses or bugs. For full terms and conditions please refer to the site terms provided on the website.

A catalogue record for this book is available from the
British Library
Printed by GPS, Slovenia
If you would like to comment on any aspect of this book, please contact us at the above address or online.
natgeokidsbooks.co.uk
cseducation@harpercollins.co.uk
Paper from responsible sources

Since 1888, the National Geographic Society has funded more than 12,000 research, exploration, and preservation projects around the world. The Society receives funds from National Geographic Partners, LLC, funded in part by your purchase. A portion of the proceeds from this book supports this vital work. To learn more, visit http://natgeo.com/info.

Photo Credits cover, David Aguilar; 1, Earth Imaging/Getty Images; 4-5, © Jeffrey T. Kreulen/Shutterstock; 6-7, SuperStock; 8-9, NASA; 9 (top), NASA 10-11, NASA/Photo Researchers/
Getty Images; 12 (left), Albert Klein/Oxford Scientifi c RM/
Getty Images; 12 (right), Albert Klein/Oxford Scientifi c
RM/Getty Images; 13 (left), David Aguilar; 13 (right),
NASA; 14-15, SuperStock; 15 (left), Mikhail Markovskiy/
Shutterstock; 15 (top right), Willyam Bradberry/
Shutterstock; 15 (bottom right), Galyna Andrushko/
Shutterstock; 16, NASA; 17, Steve A. Munsinger/Photo
Researchers RM/Getty Images; 18 (bottom left), David

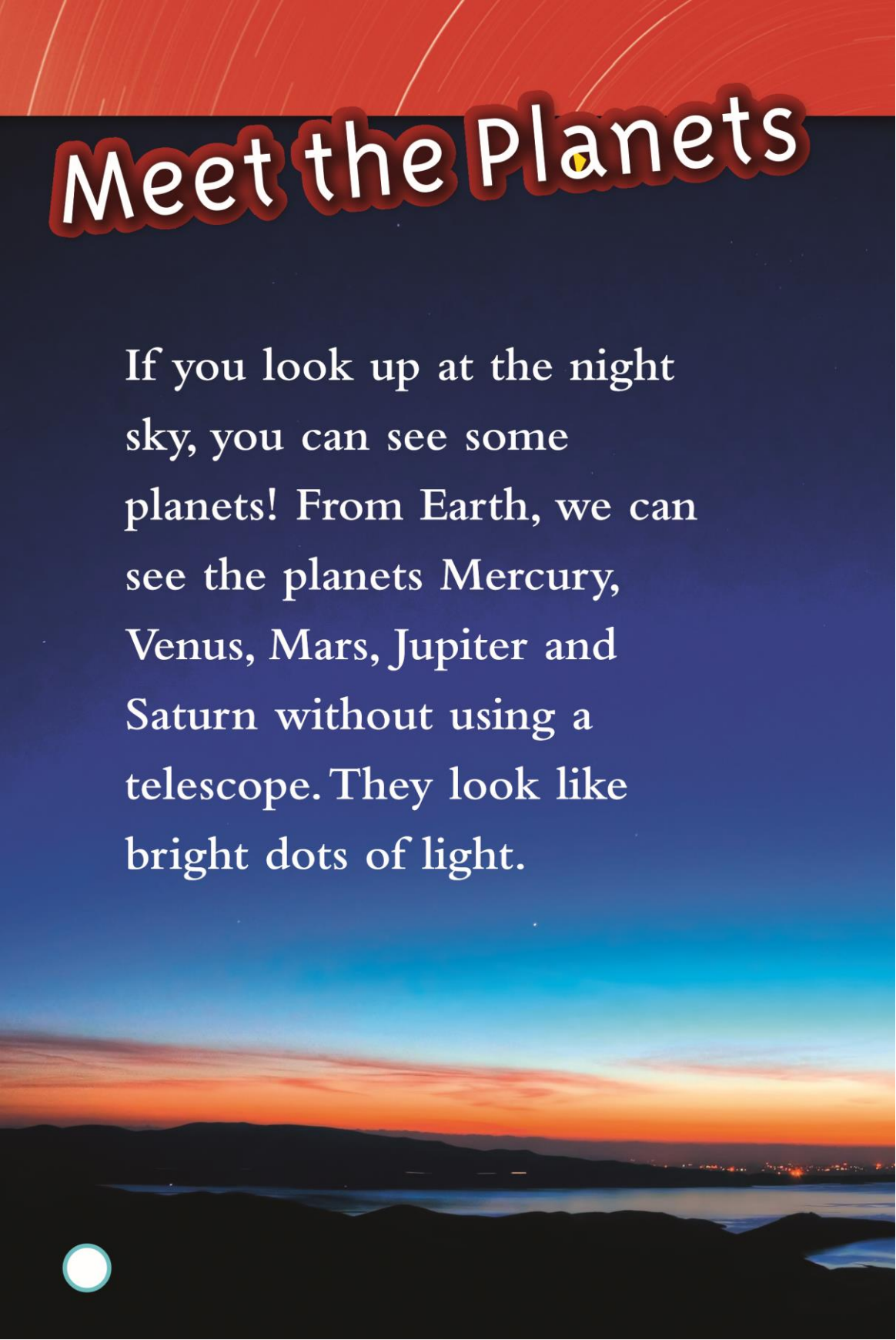
Aguilar; 18 (bottom right), David Aguilar; 18 (centre),
David Aguilar; 18 (top), David Aguilar; 19, David Aguilar;
20 (top), Ian McKinnell/Getty Images; 20 (centre), Albert
Klein/Oxford Scientifi c RM/Getty Images; 20 (bottom),
Albert Klein/Oxford Scientifi c RM/Getty Images; 21
(centre), NASA; 21 (bottom), Dr. Mark Garlick; 22, Digital
Vision/Getty Images; 23 (centre), Albert Klein/Oxford
Scientifi c RM/Getty Images; 23 (top), NASA; 23 (centre),
Albert Klein/Oxford Scientifi c RM/ Getty Images;
23 (bottom), NASA; 25, NASA/Science Source/Photo
Researchers RM/Getty Images; 26, Reuters/Corbis; 27,
NASA/JPL-Caltech; 28, PhotoResearchers/Getty Images;
29, Ludek Pesek/National Geographic Stock; 30 (top),
NASA; 30 (centre), NASA; 30 (bottom), Photolink/Getty Images; 31 (top left), Ismael Jorda/Shutterstock; 31 (top right), NASA; 31 (bottom left), Image Source/Getty Images; 31 (bottom right), NASA; 32 (top), Photolink/ Photodisc/Getty Images; 32 (centre), NASA/Photo Researchers RM/Getty Images; 32 (bottom), NASA; background, David Aguilar; header, David Aguilar;
Space Clues, David Aguilar

Table of Contents

Meet the Planets. 4
What is a Planet? 6
The Sun. 8
Our Solar System 10
The Inner Planets. 12
Your Planet Earth. 14
The Gas Giants. 16
Dwarf Planets. 18
Amazing Planets. 20
Moons Galore! 22
Our Moon. 24
Exploring Space 26
Stump Your Parents. 30
Glossary. 32

Meet the Planets

If you look up at the night sky, you can see some planets! From Earth, we can see the planets Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn without using a telescope. They look like bright dots of light.




Venus

What is a Planet?

Most of the lights in the night sky are stars. Planets look a bit like stars, but they don't twinkle.



Space Clues

ORBIT: The path an object follows around another object, such as a star

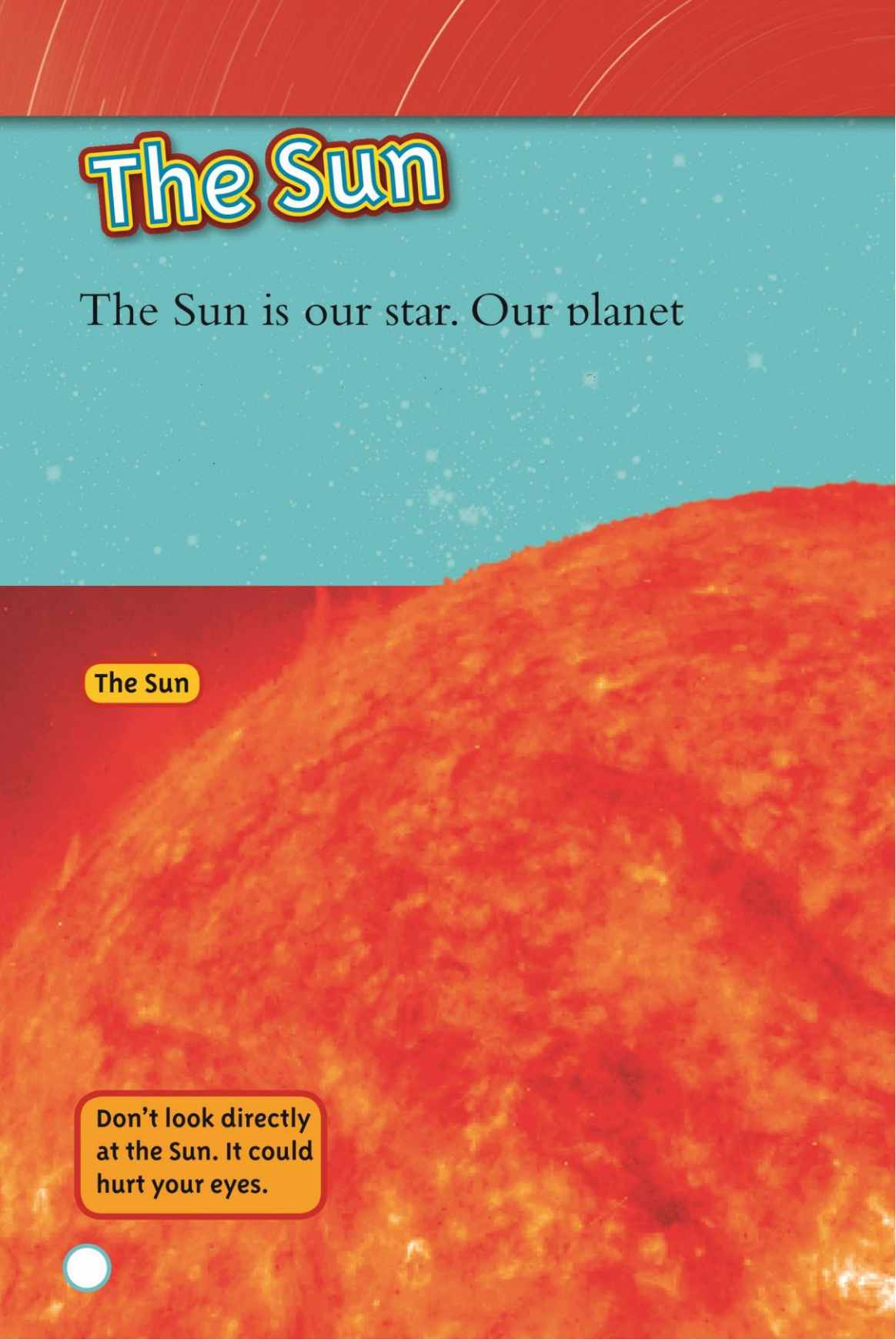
REFLECT: To bounce back

Planets are round objects that orbit a star. Most stars have planets moving around them. Planets don't create their own light. They only reflect light from stars.

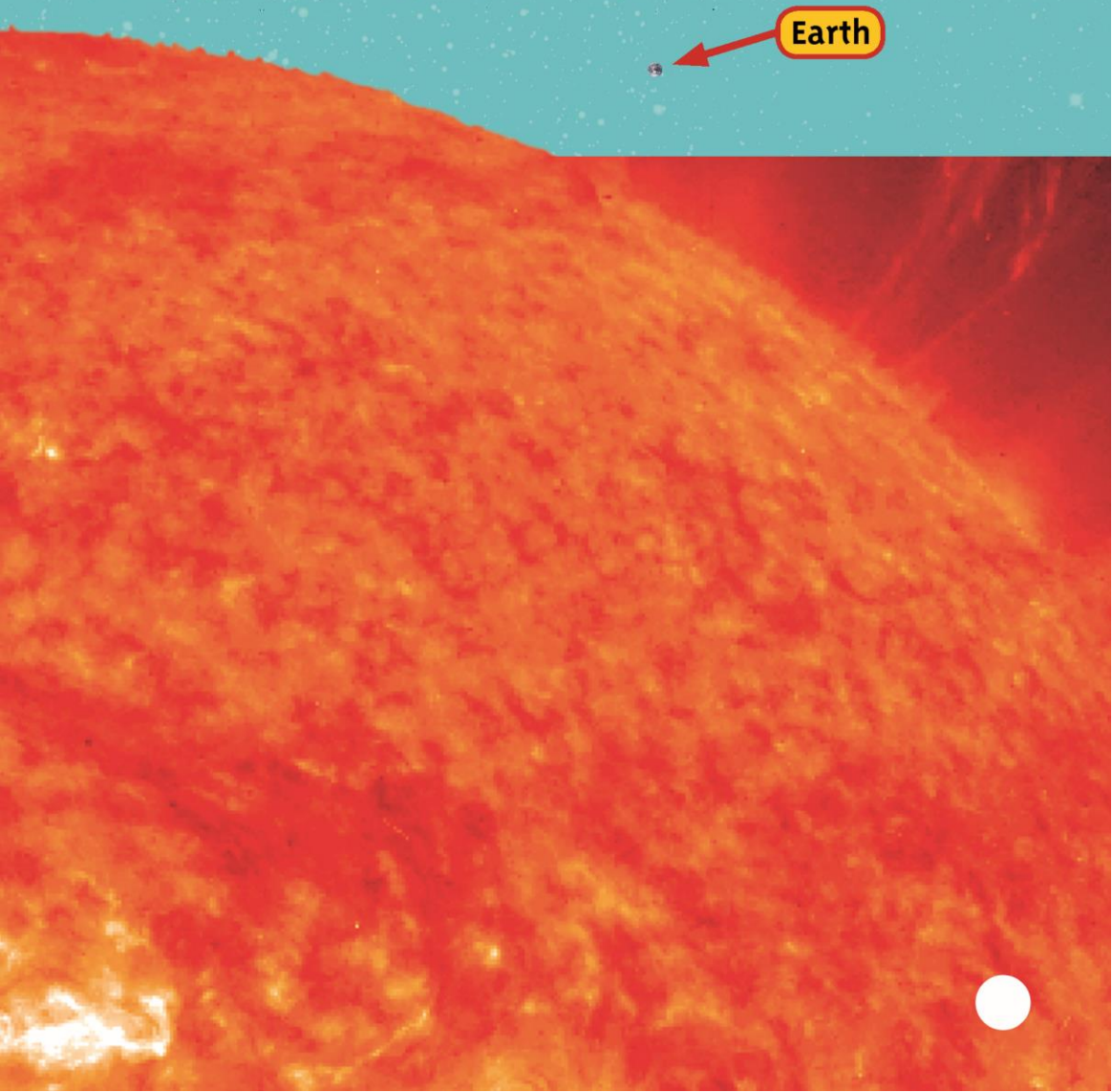


The Sun

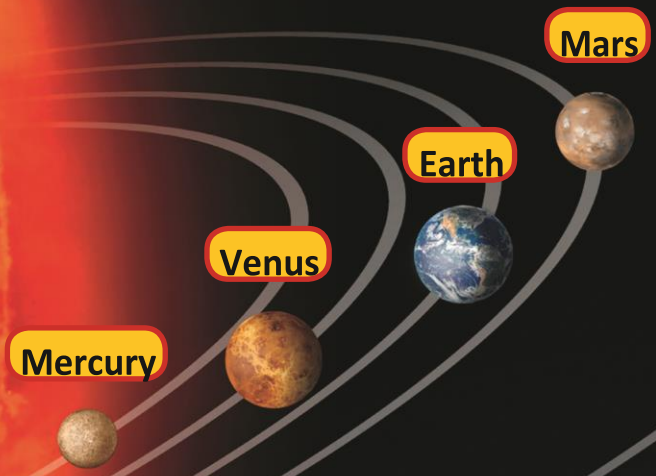
The Sun is our star. Our planet



Its surface is about 100 times hotter than a hot summer day! It's s .



Our Solar System



Our Sun and Earth are part of what we call our solar system. There are eight big planets and five small, dwarf planets in the solar system.