

# SUN AND STARS

*This stellar program leads you through the life cycles of the stars! Learn about our star, the sun, and see stardust form. Use your Mad Science® Cosmic Disk and newfound knowledge about the constellations to navigate the night sky!*

## **SUMMARY:**

In this class, children investigate our sun and other stars in our and other galaxies. They will follow stellar life cycles and view the stars from different angles of the universe. Children will learn the reasons for constellations and practice navigating by the stars. They bring home a Mad Science® Cosmic Disk to guide their night time stargazing.

## **EDUCATIONAL VALUE:**

This after-school program introduces children to stars (including our own) and the galaxies they form. Children learn about the facts of our sun and examine various stellar life cycles. They construct a three-dimensional constellation to understand the location of stars in our and other galaxies. Children learn to navigate by the stars and take home a star chart on a Mad Science® Cosmic Disk to encourage their stargazing studies.

## **TAKE-HOME MESSAGE:**

- 1 Galaxies are clouds of billions and billions of stars.
- 2 Our galaxy is called the Milky Way and our star is called the Sun.
- 3 Stars go through different life stages over the course of billions of years.

## **TAKE-HOME PRODUCT:**

Mad Science® Cosmic Disk

## **NORTH CAROLINA ESSENTIAL STANDARDS:**

- 1.E.1.1 Recognize differences in the features of the day and night sky and apparent movement of objects across the sky as observed from Earth.
- 3.E.1.2 Recognize that changes in the length and direction of an object's shadow indicate the apparent changing position of the Sun during the day although the patterns of the stars in the sky, to include the Sun, stay the same.

