**The Sun**

The Sun is one of a huge number of stars in the disk-shaped galaxy familiarly known as the Milky Way. It is pretty much an average star—in terms of its age, size, and temperature—when compared with other similar bodies. It also provides - directly or indirectly - most of the fuel energy required by people on earth. In addition to raw energy, the Sun also produces a visible light, generating 3.83 × 1026 watts of power in this form. Just for comparison, an ordinary incandescent light bulb uses 60 – 100 watts. The temperature at the center of the Sun is estimated to be about 13.6 million degrees Celsius. The masses of most stars are rather similar to that of the Sun– in fact 0.3 - 3.0 times the mass of the Sun. The Sun’s radius is also about average, as the radii of most of the stars are 0.2 — 15 times that of the Sun. The so–called ‘solar wind” is responsible for auroras — atmospheric lights of fantastic colors - in the polar regions of the Earth.