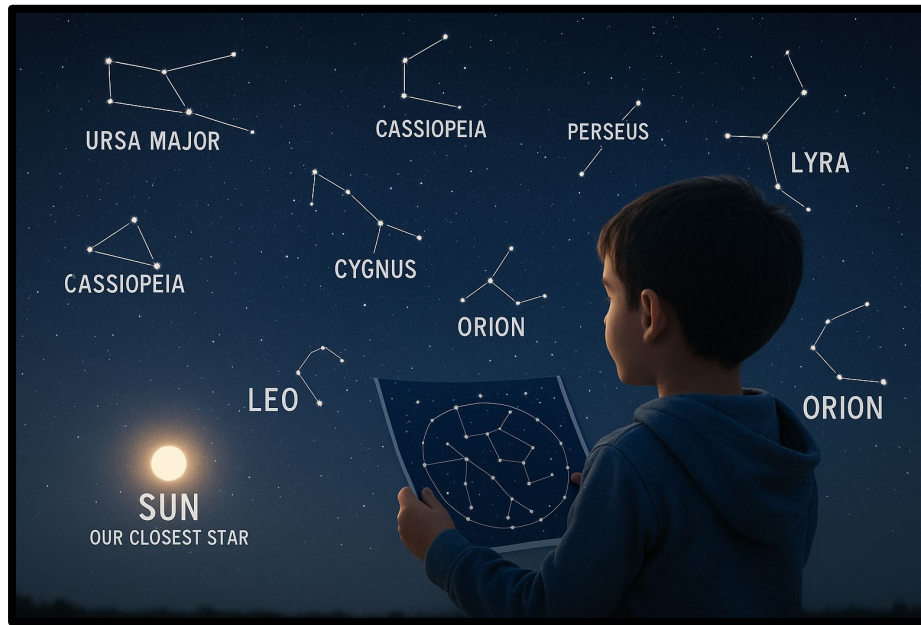


Decodable Texts: R-Controlled (ar)

"This nonfiction story explains what stars are. Look for 'ar' pattern words like 'star,' 'chart,' and 'far' as you read!"



What Is a Star?

A star is a giant ball of hot gas.

The closest star to Earth is the sun.

Stars give off light and heat.

At night, we see stars far away in the dark sky.

Some stars are part of a group called a star chart.

Charts help people learn where stars are and how they move.

There are many stars, and some are larger than the sun!

After reading the story, have your child point to and slowly sound out each practice word.

star

chart

far

dark

part



Name: _____

What Is a Star?

1. What is the closest star to Earth?

- A. The moon
- B. The sun
- C. The North Star
- D. A planet

2. What do star charts help us do?

- A. Stay warm
- B. See into the sea
- C. Find stars and where they are
- D. Make art

3. Fill in the blank:

Some stars are part of a group called a star _____.

4. What makes stars special and useful?

5. How might a chart help you learn about the sky?



Coaching Guide

Target Skill: ar R-Controlled Vowel

Genre: Nonfiction – Earth Science

High-Frequency Words: is, the, are, some, we

Before Reading

1. This story uses “ar” words like *star*, *far*, and *chart* to explain what stars are.
 2. What do you already know about stars in space?
 3. Have you ever looked at the night sky or seen a star map?
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During Reading

1. **Sounding Out Support:** Emphasize decoding of “ar” words like *dark*, *part*, and *chart*.
 2. Watch for ar words that describe stars and tools for learning about them
 3. What makes a star different from the moon or planets?
 4. Read the sentence about the sun with pride—it’s our closest star!
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After Reading

1. Retell what stars are made of and what they do
 2. How do charts help people study stars?
 3. What star would you want to learn more about and why?
 4. Skill Check: Circle six “ar” words in the passage
 5. **Fluency Tip:** Read it again like a space explorer sharing facts with the class
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Activity Idea

Draw a night sky with labeled stars and a simple star chart. Label your work using “ar” words like *star*, *chart*, *far*, or *part*. Write one sentence about why stars are important.

Coaching Tip

Connect decoding to science by letting curiosity guide the reading—real facts make vowel patterns stick!

