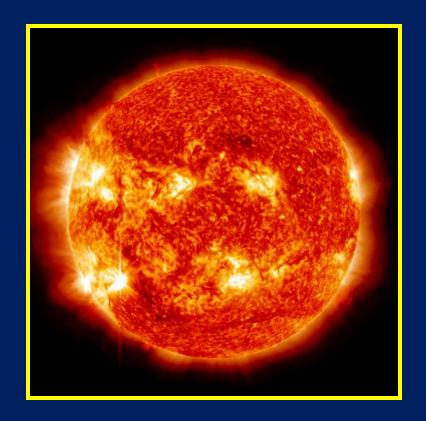
### Energy from the Sun



**Essential Standard 1.1: Explain Earth's role as a body in space.** 

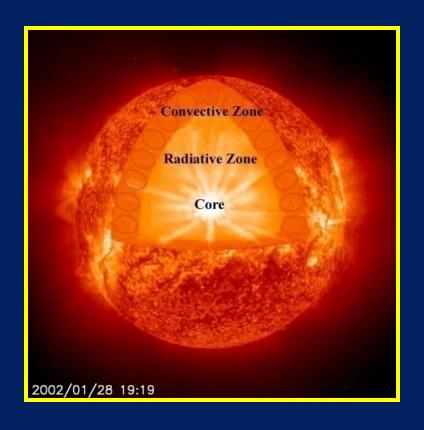
Objective 1.1.3: Explain how the Sun produces energy which is transferred to the Earth by radiation.

#### **Can Statements**

- At the end of this lesson, you should be able to say, with confidence:
- I can explain what happens during fusion reactions in the Sun.
- I can explain how Energy from the Sun travels to Earth as radiant energy in the form of electromagnetic waves.

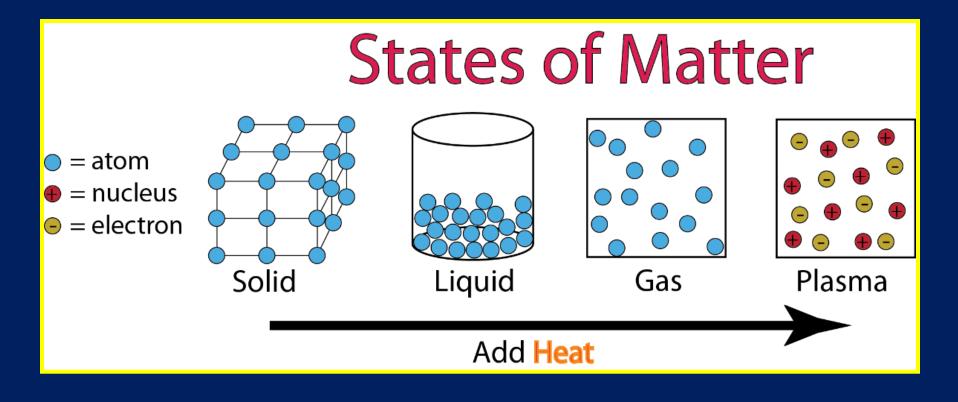
#### Our Sun - Star

The Sun has a diameter of 864,000 miles and a core temperature that can reach 27 million degrees Fahrenheit.



#### Plasma

At extremely high temperatures, much of the matter exists as plasma, or charged particles, not as fully formed atoms.



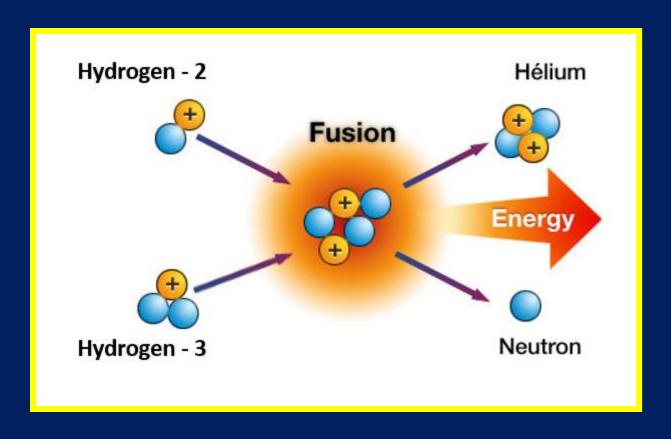
#### Extreme Speed of Particles

The high temperatures, inside the core, transfer thermal energy to the particles, setting them in motion at extreme speeds.



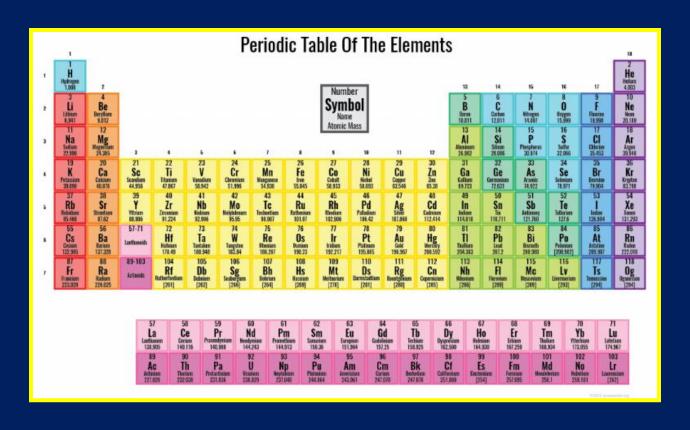
#### **Fusion Reactions**

As the extremely fast-moving particles move, they collide and fuse together, forming atoms, in a process called fusion.



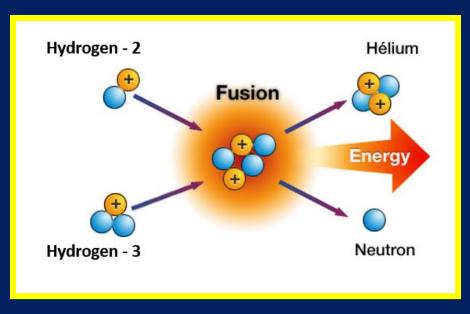
#### **Fusion Reactions**

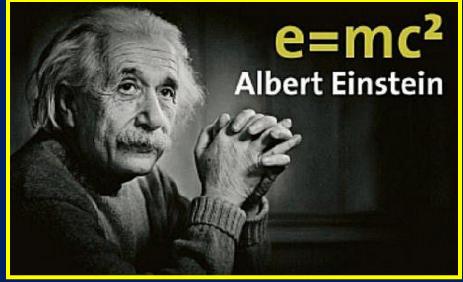
Most of the atoms or elements, found on the periodic table, are formed through fusion reactions inside of stars like our Sun.



#### **Fusion Reactions**

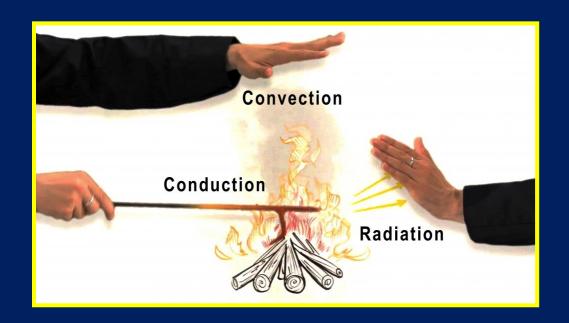
Besides the formation of atoms, fusion reactions also release massive amounts of energy.





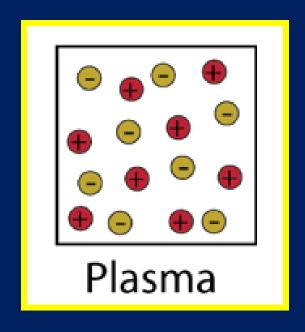
### Radiant Energy

The energy produced in the Sun, during fusion reactions travel to the Earth in the form of radiant energy or radiation.



Radiant energy, or radiation, is transferred without the use of atoms.

Recall that most of the matter within the Sun consist of charged particles, or lone electrons and lone protons in the plasma state.



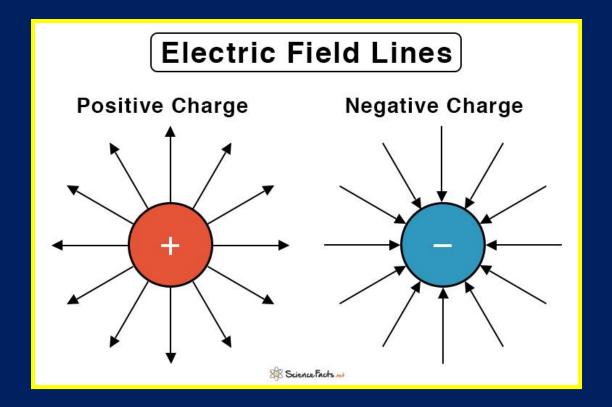
**Protons** 



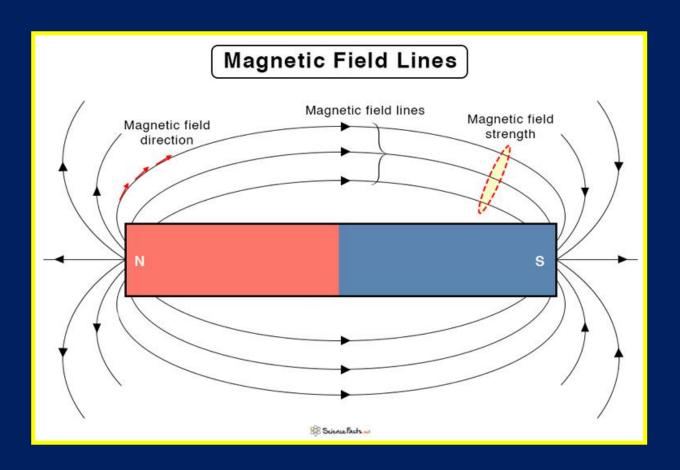
Electrons



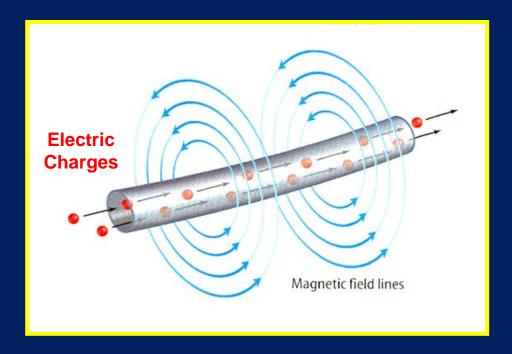
Surrounding any charged particle is an electrical field that extends out into the space, surrounding the charged particle.



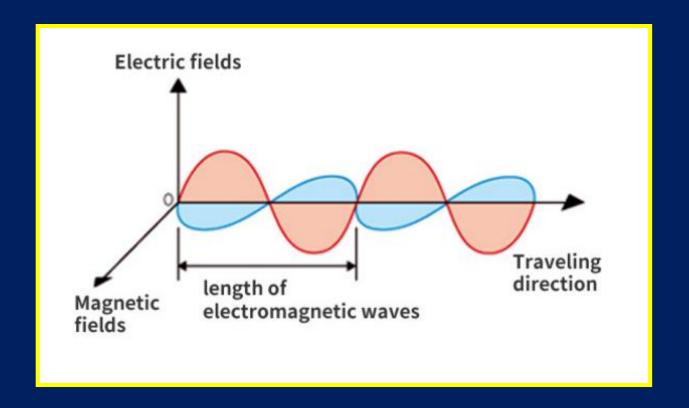
Also surrounding any charged particle is a magnetic field.



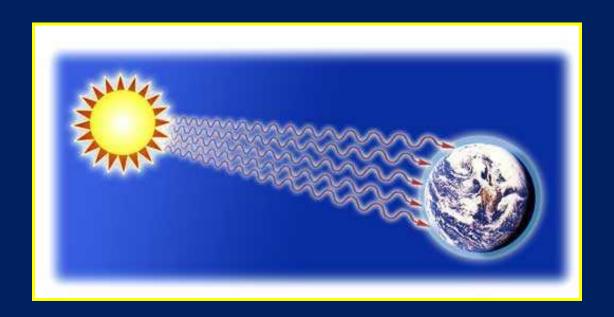
Electrical fields and magnetic fields interact so that a vibrating electrical field will produce a vibrating magnetic field and visa versa.



The process of electrical fields producing magnetic fields and visa versa results in the formation of an electromagnetic wave.



Since electromagnetic waves rely only upon alternating electrical and magnetic fields, they can travel from the Sun to Earth thru the vacuum of space.



# The End

