SUN VOCABULARY

1. **NEBULA**- a large cloud of gas and dust in space
2. **SOLAR NEBULA**- the cloud of gas and dust that formed our solar system
3. **CORONA**- "crown" outer layer of sun, upper atmosphere
4. **CHROMOSPHERE**- the 2nd layer of the sun, the lower atmosphere
5. **PHOTOSPHERE**- the visible surface of the sun
6. **CONVECTION ZONE**- zone where hot gases rise and cool gases sink
7. **RADIATIVE ZONE**- dense zone of gamma rays, energy here for a million years
8. **CORE**- place where fusion occurs
9. **FUSION**- process of forcing 4 hydrogen atoms to fuse together into 1 helium
10. **SOLAR FLARE**- explosion from a sunspot that goes into space
11. **PROMINENCE**- Massive explosion from the sun that ejects ten billion tons of mass (protons) and energy into space
12. **CORONAL MASS EJECTION** – CME Massive explosion from the sun that ejects ten billion tons of mass (protons) and energy into space
13. **CORONAL LOOP**- gases held up in a magnetic loop—reach from sunspot to sunspot(doesn't leave Sun)
14. **SUNSPOT**- dark region on sun where a solar flare will erupt
15. **AURORA BOREALIS**- "northern lights" caused by solar flares making our atmosphere gases glow
16. **AURORA AUSTRALIS**- "southern lights"
17. **LIGHT YEAR**- distance light travels in a year
18. **SUNSPOT MINIMUM**- time during the 11 yr cycle when there are few sunspots
19. **SUNSPOT MAXIMUM**- time during the 11 yr cycle when there are many sunspots