

Internet Investigation
Star Life Cycle

(http://aspire.cosmic-ray.org/labs/star_life/starlife_main.html)

Proceed through the web pages at this site, answering the following questions as you go. The symbol ► tells you that you should be on a new page.

1. What human stages of life correspond to the following stages in the life of a star?
Protostar _____
Fusion ignition to Main Sequence _____
Red Giant/Supergiant _____
White Dwarf/Black Hole _____
2. At your age, if you were a star, what stage would you be in? _____
3. What do we call the birthplace of stars? _____ What is it made of? _____
4. How long ago was our sun formed? _____

► **Protostar**

5. What causes the “clumps” in the nebula to form? _____ What do these clumps become? _____
6. What is equilibrium in a star? _____
7. When does equilibrium occur in a protostar? _____
8. During star formation does gravity change? _____
9. During star formation does pressure change? _____ Name two things that cause it to change. _____
10. What are the two objects that a protostar could become? _____

► **Stars**

11. What is a star? _____
12. What are the fuels that stars use to create energy through fusion
During the majority of their lives? _____
Toward the end of their lives? _____
Toward the end of their lives if they are a more massive star? _____
13. In what phase do the majority of stars live? _____