READING PASSAGE · LEVEL 1 · EMERGING

VENUS: THE BRIGHT ONE

A short reader for younger learners (Ages 6–8)

Venus is the brightest planet in our night sky. People have called it the morning star and the evening star for thousands of years!

Venus is covered in thick clouds. The clouds are pale yellow and never go away. Because of the clouds, you cannot see the surface from far away.

Venus is the hottest planet — even hotter than Mercury! That's because the clouds trap heat like a blanket.

Venus is about the same size as Earth. Long ago, people called it Earth's twin. But the two planets are very, very different.

Venus has no moons. It spins very, very slowly — and the wrong way around. The Sun rises in the west on Venus!

★ WORDS TO KNOW 3 TERMS

cloud
Tiny drops of water or gas floating in the sky.

trap
To catch and hold something so it can't get out.

twin
Two things that look the same.

★ COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS 4 QUESTIONS

1. Why has Venus been called the "morning star" and the "evening star"?

2. What colour are Venus's clouds?

3. Why is Venus hotter than Mercury, even though Mercury is closer to the Sun?

4. What is strange about the way Venus spins?

★ NOW YOU DRAW IT!

Draw Venus below. Can you show its thick yellow clouds and how brightly it shines?