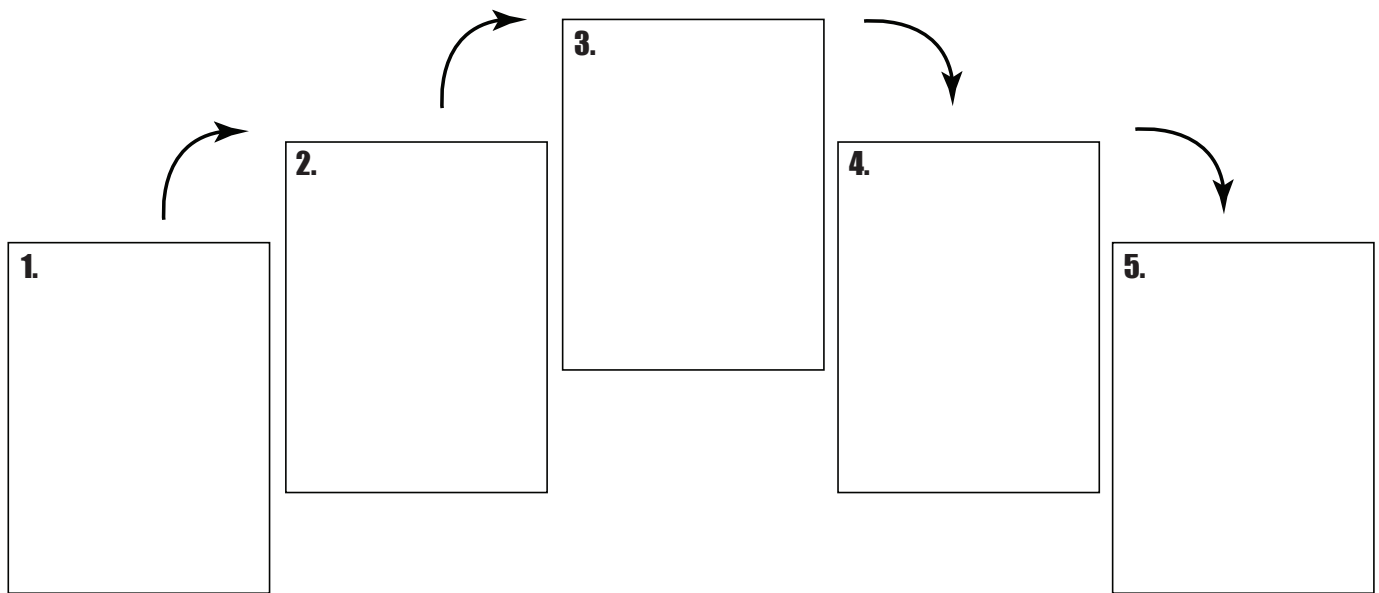




# Life Cycle of a Star

Stars are born all of the time, usually in large, dark clouds of gas and dust called *nebulae*. A star begins its journey when gravity pulls gas together, tightening it into a hot ball.

- The hotter it gets, the more nuclear reactions take place in its center, creating a star called a *stellar nebula*.
- When the star becomes an *average star*, it burns the brightest and appears yellow.
- The star will next move into the *red giant* phase, where it burns a lot of gas, emitting a lot of heat, which causes it to appear red.
- In the *planetary nebula* stage, gases are escaping, and the star begins to get smaller.
- Finally, the star moves into the last phase before it dies, the *white dwarf* stage. In this stage, the star is growing smaller and losing all of its gas, eventually cooling.



Directions: Cut out the star phases below, and glue them in the correct order in the boxes above.

