The Sun is Kind of a Big Deal

The Sun never stops working to keep things on Earth running smoothly. (That's why it's been Employee of the Month for 4.5 billion years.) So why does the Sun get to be center of attention? Because it's our solar system's very own star!
Summer is usually a favorite season among students. The reason we have a summer season is that we receive more direct rays from the sun as we orbit. Here is a fun activity to help understand how planets and moons orbit.

Using a large paper bowl or paper plate with substantial lip, place a small piece of playdough or silly putty in the middle of the bowl or plate. These substances work well because they stick and stay in place. Add a small ball or marble to the bowl or plate that will easily roll. Gently tilt the bowl or plate back and forth to watch the ‘planet’ orbit the ‘sun’. This can also be a ‘moon’ orbiting a ‘planet’.

This is also a good time to talk to your student about summer expectations. Where they can go, who they can go with, and how to stay safe during summer break.