Directions: Stars follow a very distinct process when they form, and so do solar systems and planets. In this activity, students look at six images that illustrate the steps in the formation of a solar system and its planets. Using intuition and logic, students should determine the correct order of the images. Students will answer in their notebooks or in the space provided below, to indicate the correct order for the images to show the progression in the formation of our solar system.

1. D - A slowly rotating nebula begins to collapse.
2. F - A protostar forms out of the gas.
3. C - As the cloud condenses it flattens out into a pancake shape.
4. A - As the protostar turns, dust close to the star is vaporized and blown away.
5. E - The nebula clears away as the dust grains clump into planetesimals.
6. B - Planetesimals collide and collect into planets that orbit the star.
Directions: Stars follow a very distinct process when they form, and so do solar systems and planets. In this activity, you’ll look at six images that illustrate the process of solar system and planet formation. Using intuition and logic, determine the correct order of the images. In your notebook or in the space provided below, indicate the correct order for the images to show the progression in the formation of our Solar System.