

Name _____

The Stages of a Star's Life Answer Key

Correct Sequence

1. Nebula (cloud of gas and dust)
2. Protostar (early forming star)
3. Main Sequence Star
4. Red Giant or Supergiant
5. Supernova (for massive stars)
6. Neutron Star or Black Hole (for massive stars)
7. White Dwarf (for smaller stars)

Diagram Outline Filled

[B. Nebula] → [D. Protostar] → [A. Main Sequence Star] → [F. Red Giant / Supergiant] → [C. Supernova] → [G. Neutron Star or Black Hole] → [E. White Dwarf*]

(*Note: White Dwarf replaces Supernova/Neutron Star for smaller stars.)

Challenge Prompt (Sample Answer)

The final stage depends on the star's **mass**. Small and medium stars shrink into white dwarfs because they don't have enough mass for a huge explosion. Massive stars collapse violently into supernovae, leaving behind neutron stars or even black holes.