**Section 6 — Astronomy**

*Astronomy* comes from the Greek word for “star.” Astronomy is the scientific study of outer space. Ancient Greeks were pioneers in this field.

People in all civilizations observed the sun, moon, and stars. But a Greek scientist named Aristarchus (ayr-uh-STAHR-kuhs) was the first person to suggest that Earth moves around the sun. This idea upset many Greeks who believed that Earth was the center of the universe.

Another Greek, Hipparchus (hih-PAHR-kuhs), is often called one of the greatest scientists of the ancient world. He studied and named more than 850 stars. He also figured out how to estimate the distances from Earth to both the sun and the moon. His theories allowed later scientists to **accurately** predict eclipses of the moon.