

Space Exploration

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Course Objective:

Students will develop an appreciation for space by learning through various centers and methods about space. There isn't any homework assigned in this class, but many students find the concepts of space interesting and will be encouraged to make their own observations and research.

Course Expectations:

- Attend all classes unless ill. No make-ups will occur
- Arrive on time and prepared
- Be open to ideas and to work safely
- Complete assignments
- Be willing to discuss and evaluate your progress open and honestly
- Read all materials assigned
- Bring two pencils, pens, folder, and spiral notebook

Class Syllabus:

We will be weekly having different topics about space. There will be 8 stations set-up for students to explore on each topic independently or in a group. Explanations of each station is listed below. Students will flow between the stations at their own pace pretty much to be accountable for their own work. I will be facilitating the students' questions and needs as they are working and helping them with time management.

Week 1: Asteroids, Meteors, and Comets

Week 2: Electromagnetic Spectrum

Week 3: Galaxies

Week 4: Inner Planets

Week 5: Life Cycle of Stars

Week 6: Outer Planets

Week 7: Lunar Cycle and Moon Phases

Week 8: Solar and Lunar Eclipses

If Time Allows: Seasons and Tides

The Stations:

Explore It! – This station will typically be a hands-on demo or experiment that allows the student to connect the information through application.

Illustrate It! – This station allows the student to sketch or draw out the concept that they are learning. This allows for better recall and retention of new information.

Read It! – At this station students will find a short passage relevant to the content and should answer 3-4 multiple choice questions about the reading.

Watch It! – Students will watch a short video at this station and answer questions relevant to their learning. This station can be setup with class computers/tablets, SMART board, or even a teacher's computer.

Organize It! – The students will be working with a card sorts or manipulatives at this station. These are included with each of my units.

Write It! – At this station the students will be responding to 2-4 short answer prompts that will allow them to communicate their knowledge in complete sentences.

Research It! – This station will be a website that students will go to learn more information about the topic. Students will perform tasks and answer questions on their lab sheet.

Assess It! – The students will demonstrate their knowledge of the topic using a series of task cards with more formal questions.