

Science Goals

Moon's appearance changes in predictable 4 week cycle
Position of Sun in sky changes during day and seasonally
Earth orbits sun with other planets, Moon orbits Earth
Sunlight and light can be blocked to create shadows.

Social Studies Goals

History connections to discovery of planets and orbits

Theme/Unit

Solar System Unit

Learning Experiences:

Reading myths & stories about relationship of Moon, Sun and Earth [add to reading rack]

Keeping moon journal

Build sun dial, measuring for accurate marking, recording data on shadow change & Sun's position

Build 8 panel model showing different phases of the moon with pictures and labels

Field trip to planetarium

Writing Your Own Myth About the Moon or Sun and selecting one to act out with masks for other 3rd grades

Writing Haiku about the Moon

"Moon Dance Activity" to physically demonstrate why phases occur, Moon's orbit, and Sun's orbit

Small model of solar system to display on inquiry table

KWL about Moon and Sun

Reading how orbital relationships of solar system were discovered

Calculating size ratios of sun, moon, earth, planets

Measuring
Recording data on distance moved ratios

Reading fiction & non-fiction

Metaphors

Writing short stories/myths

Writing poems

Recording observations in daily journal

Working in teams

Reaching group decisions

Language Arts Goals

Visual Arts Goals

Drawing to illustrate a story

Building model

Building sets and masks

Life & Social Skills Goals

Mathematics Goals