



First Grade Science

Space Systems: Out of this World

Dear Families,

Here is what your child is learning in First Grade, during the study of Space Systems with some specific ways you can help. Look for additional newsletters for upcoming units.

Space Systems: Out of this World

Students need to:

- Identify objects (sun, moon, stars) visible in the sky during the day.
- Identify objects (sun, moon, stars) visible in the sky during the night.
- Identify the position of the sun in the sky at various times during the day.
- Identify the position of the moon in the sky at various times during the day or night.
- Know that stars are not seen in the sky during the day, but they are seen in the sky during the night.
- Know that the sun is at different positions in the sky at different times of the day, appearing to rise in one part of the sky in the morning and appearing to set in another part of the sky in the evening.
- Know that the moon can be seen during the day and at night, but the sun can only be seen during the day.
- Know that the moon is at different positions in the sky at different times of the day or night, appearing to rise in one part of the sky and appearing to set in another part of the sky.
- The relationship between the amount of daylight and the time of year.

Key Vocabulary

Appearance: the way that someone or something looks

Constellations: a group of Stars that forms a particular shape in the sky and has been given a name

Crescent Moon: the shape of the visible part of the Moon when it is less than half full

Full Moon: the Moon when it appears as a bright circle

Half Moon: the Moon when only half of it can be seen

Illuminated/Illumination: light is used to shine on an object

Moon Phases: the shape of the part of the Moon that is visible at different times during a month

Observation: a statement about something you have noticed

Observe: to watch and listen to something carefully

Pattern: something that happens in a regular and repeated way

Stars: objects in space that are made of burning gas and that look like points of light in the night sky

Sunrise: the time when the Sun appears above the horizon in the morning

Sunset: the time when the Sun goes below the horizon in the evening

Ways FAMILIES Can Help

- Use the Discovery Education link to find more information about the Sun, Moon, and Stars ([see the following page for log-in information](#)).
- Have your child look at the night sky and point out what they see.
- Throughout the year, when your child is waking up in the morning, or getting ready for bed, have them notice if there is still daylight.
- Have your child keep a Moon journal of the different Moon phases they see at night.
- See if you and your child can find constellations in the night sky.
- Discuss with your child where the Sun came up in the morning and where it set in the evening.