Missouri

Elementary School

	Starry Night Lesson Plans	
	Grades K-2	**Grades 3-4**
Kindergarten		
1. The universe has observable properties and structure		
A. The Earth, Sun, and moon are part of a larger system that includes other planets and smaller celestial bodies	1, 2, 3, 4	1, 2, 3
a. Observe and describe the presence of the Sun, moon, and stars in the sky	1, 2, 3, 4	1, 2, 3
b. Recognize there are more stars in the sky than anyone can easily count, but they are not scattered evenly and vary in brightness	1, 3	3
2. Regular and predictable motions of objects in the universe can be described and explained as the result of gravitational forces		
A. The apparent position of the Sun and other stars, as seen from Earth, changes in observable patterns	1, 3	2, 3
a. Describe the Sun as only being seen in the daytime	1, 3	2, 3
b. Recognize the Sun appears to move across the sky from morning to night	1, 3	2, 3
B. The apparent position of the moon, as seen from Earth, and its actual position relative to Earth change in observable patterns	1, 3, 4	
a. Observe the moon can be seen sometimes at night and sometimes during the daytime	1, 3, 4	
b. Recognize the moon appears to change shape over the course of a month	1, 3, 4	
C. The regular and predictable motions of the Earth and moon relative to the Sun explain natural phenomena on Earth, such as day, month, year, shadows, moon phases, eclipses, tides, and seasons	1, 3	2, 3
a. Observe and describe the characteristics of the four seasons as they cycle through the year (summer, fall, winter, spring)	1, 3	2, 3

Missouri

Elementary School (cont'd)

	Starry Night Lesson Plans	
	Grades K-2	**Grades 3-4**
Grade Three		
1. The universe has observable properties and structure		
A. The Earth, Sun, and moon are part of a larger system that includes other planets and smaller celestial bodies	1, 2, 3, 4	1, 2, 3
a. Describe our Sun as a star because it provides light energy to the solar system	1, 3	2
b. Recognize the moon is a reflector of light	4	
2. Regular and predictable motions of objects in the universe can be described and explained as the result of gravitational forces		
A. The apparent position of the Sun and other stars, as seen from Earth, change in observable patterns	1, 3	2, 3
a. Illustrate and describe how the Sun appears to move slowly across the sky from east to west during the day	1, 3	2, 3
B. The apparent position of the moon, as seen from Earth, and its actual position relative to Earth change in observable patterns	3, 4	
a. Illustrate and describe how the moon appears to move slowly across the sky from east to west during the day and/or night	3, 4	
b. Observe the change in the moon's appearance relative to time of day and month over several months and note the pattern in this change	3, 4	
C. The regular and predictable motions of the Earth and moon relative to the Sun explain natural phenomena on Earth, such as day, month, year, shadows, moon phases, eclipses, tides, and seasons	1, 3	2, 3
a. Recognize there is a day/night cycle every 24 hours	1, 3	2, 3
b. Describe the changes in length and position (direction) of shadows from morning to midday to afternoon	3	2
c. Describe how the Sun's position in the sky changes the length and position of shadows	3	2