

New Hampshire
Elementary School

Starry Night Lesson Plans
Grades K-2 Grades 3-4

Grades K-2

ESS2– The Earth is part of a solar system, made up of distinct parts, which have temporal and spatial interrelationships.	1, 2, 3, 4	1, 2, 3
S:ESS2:2:1.1 Recognize the basic patterns of the Sun, including its appearance during the daytime, and how its position in the sky changes through the seasons.	1, 3	2
S:ESS2:2:1.2 Recognize the basic patterns of the Moon, including its appearance sometimes at night and sometimes during the day; and how it appears to change shape through the month.	1, 3, 4	
S:ESS2:2:2.1 Recognize that the light and heat the Sun provides to the Earth is necessary for life.	1, 3	2
S:ESS2:2:4.1 Recognize that the Sun, Moon and stars all appear to move slowly across the sky.	1, 3	2, 3
S:ESS2:2:4.2 Recognize that as the position of the Sun changes in relation to the Earth it creates shadows of varying length and direction.	3	2
S:ESS2:2:4.3 Explain that people should not look directly at the Sun because it is dangerous and may cause injury to the eyes.	2	1, 2
ESS3– The origin and evolution of galaxies and the universe demonstrate fundamental principles of physical science across vast distances and time.	1, 3	3
S:ESS3:2:2.1 Recognize there are too many stars to count, and that they are unequal in their brightness.	1, 3	3

Grades 3-4

ESS2– The Earth is part of a solar system, made up of distinct parts, which have temporal and spatial interrelationships.	1, 2, 3, 4	1, 2, 3
S:ESS2:4:1.1 Explain that night and day are caused by the Earth's rotation on its axis; and that the Earth rotates approximately once, every 24 hours.	1, 3	2, 3
S:ESS2:4:1.2 Describe the Sun as a star.	1, 2, 3	1, 2
S:ESS2:4:2.1 Recognize that the Sun provides the light and heat necessary to maintain the temperature of the Earth.	1, 3	1, 2
S:ESS2:4:3.1 Recognize that the Moon orbits the Earth.	3, 4	
S:ESS2:4:3.2 Recognize that the Earth is one of a number of planets that orbit the Sun.	2	1
S:ESS2:4:4.1 Recognize that although star patterns seen in the sky appear to move slowly each night from east to west they actually remain the same, and explain why different stars can be seen during different seasons.	1, 3	3
S:ESS2:4:4.2 Explain why the planets look like stars, and why, over a period of time, they appear to wander among the constellations.		1, 3
ESS3– The origin and evolution of galaxies and the universe demonstrate fundamental principles of physical science across vast distances and time.	2, 4	1, 3
S:ESS3:4:1.1 Recognize that astronomical objects in space are massive in size and are separated from one another by vast distances.	2	1
S:ESS3:4:1.2 Explain that telescopes magnify the size of distant objects and significantly increase the number of these objects that can be viewed from Earth.	2, 4	1, 3
S:ESS3:4:2.1 Recognize and describe the stars, like the Sun, as spherical in nature.	2	3
S:ESS3:4:2.2 Recognize that stars come in different colors, and that the Sun is a yellow star.	2	3