

Utah
Elementary School

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

Grade 3

Standard 1 Students will understand that the shape of Earth and the moon are spherical and that Earth rotates on its axis to produce the appearance of the sun and moon moving through the sky.	1, 2, 3, 4	1, 2, 3
Objective 1 Describe the appearance of Earth and the moon.	1, 2, 4	1
• Describe the shape of Earth and the moon as spherical.	2, 4	1
• Explain that the sun is the source of light that lights the moon.	1, 4	1
• List the differences in the physical appearance of Earth and the moon as viewed from space.	2, 4	1
Objective 2 Describe the movement of Earth and the moon and the apparent movement of other bodies through the sky.	1, 3, 4	2, 3
• Describe the motions of Earth (i.e., the rotation [spinning] of Earth on its axis, the revolution [orbit] of Earth around the sun).	1, 3, 4	2, 3
• Use a chart to show that the moon orbits Earth approximately every 28 days.	4	
• Use a model of Earth to demonstrate that Earth rotates on its axis once every 24 hours to produce the night and day cycle.	1, 3	3
• Use a model to demonstrate why it seems to a person on Earth that the sun, planets, and stars appear to move across the sky.	1, 3	3
Standard 5 Students will understand that the sun is the main source of heat and light for things living on Earth. They will also understand that the motion of rubbing objects together may produce heat.	1, 3	2
Objective 1 Provide evidence showing that the sun is the source of heat and light for Earth.	1, 3	
• Compare temperatures in sunny and shady places.		2