

Washington

Middle School

Grades 6-8

Earth and Space Systems

Components of the Solar System and Beyond (Universe)

1.2.5 Understand the structure of the Solar System. W

§ (6) Describe how the Earth orbits the Sun and the Moon orbits the Earth.	A2	A3	A4	E3	E4
§ (6) Describe the Sun (i.e., a medium-size star, the largest body in our solar system, major source of energy for phenomena on Earth's surface).	F1-F3				
§ (6) Describe how planets, asteroids, and comets orbit the Sun.	B1-B2	C1-C4	D1-D3	I2	
§ (6) Describe meteors (e.g., planetary and comet debris that collides with Earth).	D2	D3			
§ (8) Compare the relationships among the components of the solar system (e.g., composition, size, atmosphere, gravity, distance from the Sun, number of moons).	A1-A5 F1-F3	B1-B2 I2	C1-C4	D1-D3	

Interactions in the Solar System and Beyond (Universe)

1.3.7 Understand the effects of the regular and predictable motions of planets and moons in the Solar System. W

§ (6) Describe the causes of seasonal changes on Earth and other planets (i.e., Earth's tilt causes different parts of Earth to point toward the Sun at different times of the year).	A2	E3	E4		
§ (6) Describe the effects of the position of the Sun and Moon on Earth phenomena (i.e., Moon phases, solar and lunar eclipses, shadows on Earth, tides).	A1-A5				
§ (8) Describe how the spin of Earth and other planets accounts for the length of a day on those planets.	A1	C1	C2	I2	
§ (8) Describe how Earth's and other planets' orbits around the Sun account for the length of a year on those planets.	A2 E4	C2 I2	B1-B2	E3	

Starry Night Lesson Plans

In order of relevance