

E3 Earth, Moon and Sun movement

LEVEL(s): yr 1 - 4



LESSON FOCUS

- Earth, Moon and Sun movement.
- Introduction to the idea of gravity

SPECIFIC LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of this lesson the students will be able to:

- 1) Physically demonstrate an understanding of how the Earth, Moon and Sun move together in space.
- 2) Demonstrate an understanding of orbits of other planets.
- 3) Demonstrate the idea of gravity being the force which keeps planets in orbit around the sun.

LEARNING ACTIVITIES

- **Earth, Moon and Sun movement:** (yrs 1 - 4, approx 15-20 mins)
Earth, Moon and Sun role-play. Three children will be selected to dress up as the Earth, Moon and Sun and the Educator will guide them through acting out the movements of the Earth, Moon and Sun in space, introducing vocabulary such as rotation and orbit.
In groups of three, the children will use models of the Earth, Moon and Sun to demonstrate their understanding of the bodies motion.
The Educator will introduce the idea that it is gravity that keeps all the planets in the Solar System orbiting around our Sun, and that each planet and moon has it's own gravity, asking children to contribute different ideas as to the effects of differing levels of gravity. We will then show footage of astronauts on the moon, and what it is like with almost no gravity - in space!

ORGANISING FOR THE SESSION

It would be helpful if the children were pre-organised into groups of three.

CURRICULUM LINKS

SCIENCE: Nature of Science

- Investigating in science
- Communicating in science.

SCIENCE: Planet Earth and Beyond

- Astronomical systems

SCIENCE: Physical World

- Physical inquiry and physics concepts

KEY COMPETENCIES

✓ Thinking

✓ Using language, symbols and texts

✓ Managing Self

✓ Relating to Others

✓ Participating and Contributing

PRIOR KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCES

- Know how long an Earth day and night is (for younger children) and of other planets (for older children)