Lesson 1: *We Choose Space!*

Compare and Contrast the Sun, Earth, and Moon

Science standard: Identify and compare the physical characteristics of the Sun, Earth, and Moon.

Objective: Students will list the physical characteristics of the Sun, Earth, and Moon. Students will be able to identify characteristics that are similar between the Sun, Earth, and Moon. Students will be able to identify characteristics of the Sun, Earth, and Moon differentiating them from each other.

Procedures:

1. Independent Practice – Give each student a "Compare and Contrast the Sun, Earth, and Moon" worksheet. Ask them to fill out the worksheet for a given period of time. They should try and list as many characteristics under each category as possible.
2. Pair/Share – In groups of 2 or 3, students should share their answers. They should add any information that their group members share but is not on their worksheet.
3. Class Discussion – As a class complete the compare and contrast worksheet (either on a larger piece of paper, whiteboard, or transparency) together. Have students add any new answers that are not on their individual worksheets.

Assessment: Students will complete the assessment worksheet independently

Name_____

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Directions: In the table below, list characteristics that are unique to the Sun, Earth, and Moon in the appropriate columns.

Sun	Earth	Moon

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Compare and Contrast the Sun, Earth, and Moon **Answer Key**

Directions: In the table below, list characteristics that are unique to the Sun, Earth, and Moon in the appropriate columns.

Sun	Earth	Moon
Yellow Star Composed of gases (mostly hydrogen and helium) Produce energy through nuclear fusion Produces its own light Relatively stationary object Has a magnetic field	Atmosphere rich in oxygen and nitrogen Orbits a star Has life on it Reflects light from the Sun Has a magnetic field Liquid water on the surface Length of day 24 hours	Orbits a planet Does not produce its own visible light Has ice trapped at the poles Has no atmosphere Reflects lights from the sun Length of day 29 days

Name _____

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Compare and Contrast the Sun, Earth, and Moon Assessment

Directions:

1. Put a number "1" in the boxes next to the characteristics below that are unique to the Sun.
2. Put a number "2" in the boxes next to the characteristics below that are unique to Earth.
3. Put a number "3" in the boxes next to the characteristics below that are unique to Moon.
4. If a fact is applicable to more than one object place all the numbers in the box.

	Orbits a planet
	Composed of gases (mostly hydrogen and helium)
	Has life on it
	Produces its own light
	Length of day 24 hours
	Relatively stationary object
	Has a magnetic field
	Does not produce its own visible light

	Atmosphere rich in hydrogen and helium
	Orbits a star
	Has no atmosphere
	Produce energy through nuclear fusion
	Reflects light from the Sun
	Yellow Star
	Has ice trapped at the poles
	Atmosphere rich in nitrogen and oxygen
	Length of day 29 days

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Compare and Contrast the Sun, Earth, and Moon Assessment **Answer Key**

Directions:

1. Put a number "1" in the boxes next to the characteristics below that are unique to the Sun.
2. Put a number "2" in the boxes next to the characteristics below that are unique to Earth.
3. Put a number "3" in the boxes next to the characteristics below that are unique to Moon.
4. If a fact is applicable to more than one object place all the numbers in the box.

3	Orbits a planet
1	Composed of gases (mostly hydrogen and helium)
2	Has life on it
1	Produces its own light
2	Length of day 24 hours
1	Relatively stationary object
1, 2	Has a magnetic field
2, 3	Does not produce its own visible light

1	Atmosphere rich in hydrogen and helium
2	Orbits a star
3	Has no atmosphere
1	Produce energy through nuclear fusion
2, 3	Reflects light from the Sun
1	Yellow Star
2, 3	Has ice trapped at the poles
2	Atmosphere rich in nitrogen and oxygen
3	Length of day 29 days