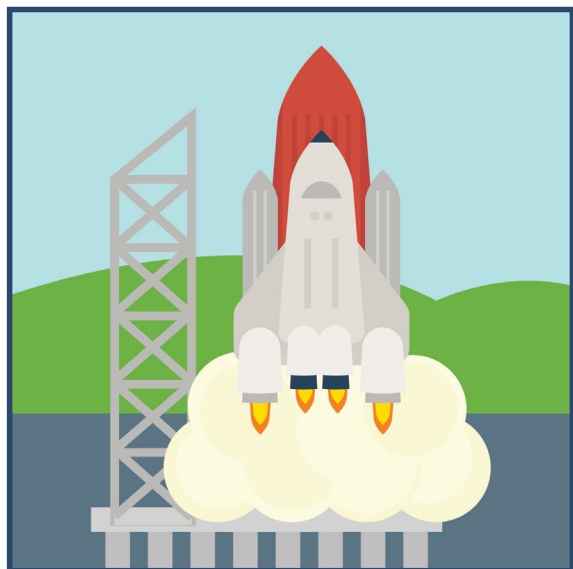




THEMES FIRST! WHAT'S OUT THERE?

WHAT'S OUT THERE?



This Month's Theme Unit Is "What's out There?"

"Astronomy compels the soul to look upward," Plato wrote, "and leads us from this world to another." This month's theme unit—*What's out There?*—explores outer space and astronomy. Students work independently and collaboratively to explore the science, math, sights, and sounds of deep space.

The *What's out There?* unit offers students opportunities to consider the boundaries beyond planet Earth. Group activities, independent work, art, science, and cooking lessons strengthen writing, math, and reading proficiency while reinforcing listening and social skills. Games, songs, life skills, and circle exercises guide students toward a greater understanding of scientific study, exploration, and collaboration.

All lessons throughout the theme address a diverse range of student skill levels. As students work through the *What's out There?* unit, they learn to understand their place in the universe, gain confidence, and practice fun, fresh ways to see the sky and what resides in it.

Theme Unit Vocabulary:

Astronomy: Astronaut, NASA, Observatory, Rocket, Satellite, Explorer, Launch, Orbit, Space Ship, Space Station, Float, Telescope, Shuttle, Spacesuit, Helmet, Countdown / **Space:** Asteroid, Black Hole, Comet, Galaxy, Gravity, Meteor, Milky Way, Moon, Shooting Star, Solar System, Sky, Eclipse, Universe, Outer Space, Sun, Stars, Constellation, Rotation, Alien, Planet / **Planets:** Earth, Mars, Mercury, Neptune, Saturn, Venus, Jupiter, Uranus / **Colors:** Black, Gray, White, Blue, Yellow, Purple / **Shapes:** Crescent, Circle, Diamond, Star, Triangle, Semi-Circle

What We Are Learning about Astronomy and Space:

- Testing hypotheses
- Space exploration
- Life skills: meal preparation

- Astronomy crafts
- Making predictions
- Science inquiry

- Introducing spatial relations
- Describing planets
- Collaborative games

WHAT'S OUT THERE?