

Mission of the CSS Kamloops

WebQuest Description: This WebQuest is designed to capture and expand students' interests about the Solar System. The goal is to have them investigate the characteristics of each planet and research one particular planet of personal interest, and select a project of their choice that would best reflect the information they gleaned.

Grade Level: 3-5

Curriculum: Science

Keywords: Solar System

Planets

Space

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Introduction

Congratulations, Members of the Canadian Spaceship Kamloops! You have just been selected as the first Grade 3/4 class to rocket into space and examine the planets and other stellar objects in our solar system. As a member of the CSS Kamloops crew, you will voyage into uncharted territory and experience things that people back on Earth would only dream about encountering! In order to educate people back on Earth about the amazing things you have experienced, make sure you have your creativity ready and raring to go! Prepare to BLAST OFF into a world like you've never seen before!

Tasks

Your Mission Prepare to rocket into space as interactive astronauts! On your journey, you will navigate through solar system links to:

- locate information about the planets to complete your Planetary Journal.
- answer questions about asteroids, comets, the Sun, and moon.
- and collect additional facts about a planet that you would like to share with your peers.

Once you have successfully gathered your bundle of out-of-this-world information, you'll use it to create a project that will educate your fellow Earthlings about the wonders of your space mission! So suit up, gather your tools, buckle your seat belts and prepare to ROCKET into your solar system adventure! COUNTDOWN! 5.....4.....3.....2.....1.....BLAST OFF!

Process

LET THE EXPLORATION BEGIN! Mission #1: Research The Planets

- Choose the 3 planets you would like to learn more about.
- Make sure you print out a copy of your 3 planets using the links below.
- Then, begin researching your planets using the links below. Make sure you READ the information on each site carefully.

Mercury World Book Online - Mercury Fact Monster - Mercury Kidsastronomy - Mercury Venus World Book Online - Venus Fact Monster - Venus Kidsastronomy - Venus Earth World Book Online - Earth Fact Monster - Earth Kidsastronomy - Earth Mars World Book Online - Mars Fact Monster - Mars Kidsastronomy - Mars Jupiter World Book Online - Jupiter Fact Monster - Jupiter Kidsastronomy - Jupiter Saturn World Book Online - Saturn Fact Monster - Saturn Kidsastronomy - Saturn Neptune World Book Online - Neptune Fact Monster - Neptune Kidsastronomy - Neptune Uranus World Book Online - Uranus Fact Monster - Uranus Kidsastronomy - Uranus Pluto World Book Online - Pluto Fact Monster - Pluto Kidsastronomy - Pluto

Mission #2: Other Stellar Objects

Way to Go! Now that you are an expert on planets in our Solar System, it's time to learn about the other kinds of things we might encounter on our mission. Mission #2: Other Stellar Objects

Once you have completed your Planetary Journal, you must find answers to the following questions about other stellar objects in our solar system.

- Print out Attachment #1: Stellar Objects. This worksheet will have your questions.
- Use the links below to find the answers to the questions on your worksheet.

Comets
Comet Facts for Kids
Asteroids
The Asteroid Belt from Nine Planets
Asteroid Facts from Ask an Astronomer
Sun
Sun Facts from Ask an Astronomer
Earth's Moon
Interesting Facts & Questions about the Moon
The Moon from Nine Planets

Mission #3: The Project

WELCOME HOME! You must be exhausted after such an intense trip around our vast solar system! By now you are practically an

expert on the planets and other stellar objects that orbit our Sun. Take a look at the video below to see the CSS Kamloops land!

Mission #3: Final Project
Your final mission is to create a travel brochure for one of the planets that you have visited. These are the parts you must include in your brochure (feel free to add more--use your creativity!): There are 6 parts in all:

- Front page:
 - *Draw a picture of your planet and add a headline
 - (with the planet's "nickname") that would capture your audience's attention.
- Inside left flap:
 - *Write a creative paragraph of the planet's location in the solar system and its orbit around its neighbors in space.
- *Include a picture and caption of the description.
- Inside middle flap:
 - *Write a creative paragraph about your planet's physical characteristics/traits/landforms.
- *A picture and caption of the description.
- Inside right flap:
 - *Write a creative paragraph about your planet's weather, temperature and atmosphere.
- *Include a picture and caption of the description.
- Back left flap:
 - *Write a creative paragraph about the origin of your planet's name (where it came from)
- * Include a picture and caption of your interpretation (inference) of the character it's named after.
- Back middle flap:
 - *A list of six quick facts that you gathered in your Planetary Journal.

Present your project to the class to share the information you've gathered.

Evaluation

The following Evaluation Rubric is only for Mission #3: The Brochure Project

Category and Score	Beginning	Developing	Good	Excellent	Score
Completion	I only completed 1-2 parts of the brochure.	I only completed 3-4 parts of the brochure.	I completed 5 parts of the brochure.	I completed all 6 parts of the brochure.	%10
Information	I did not provide enough information about my planet.	I provided information about my planet, but I needed more.	I provided a good amount of information about my planet.	I provided a lot of information about my planet and extra facts that I added on my own.	%30
Effort	My project is rushed and messy. It has less than half of the required information that I was suppose to research.	My project is half neat and half messy. It has half of the required information I was suppose to research.	My project is neat. It has most to all of the required information I was suppose to research. It may have extra information.	My project is extremely neat. I even put my own, unique (special) touches on it. It has all of the required information I was suppose to research AND extra information.	%30
Presentation	I chose not to give a presentation. OR I wasn't well prepared because I only shared a tiny bit of my research information. I could barely answer any of my classmates' questions.	I was somewhat prepared for my presentation. I shared some of my research information. I could answer some of the questions my classmates asked.	I was prepared for my presentation. I shared most to all of my research information. I could answer most questions that my classmates asked. I may have included some extra facts in my presentation.	I was extremely well prepared for my presentation. I shared all of my research information and my inferences. I also included extra information that I found. I could answer all of my classmates' questions.	%30
				Total Score	%100

Conclusion

Welcome back to Earth, crewmembers! Each of you has successfully navigated through space and collected information about a planet in our solar system. Now share your findings and educate the eager Earthlings about your discoveries!

Teacher Page

I hope you enjoyed this Solar System Webquest.

Standards

Credits

Other