

Out of this World

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I did a space theme last year. I had the following bulletin boards: "Work that is out of this world" for my student's work; "Check out these future scientist" with pictures of my students doing different science activities; "Blast off with a good book" for our school's required reading program-the students decorated their own space shuttle with their name. Then we put them up on the board with the planets. Every time they passed a book, we moved their space shuttle "pass" a planet. For all of the boards I used black fabric with a silver border and glow in the dark stars.

Over my computer area I had a sign that said Launch into cyberspace. My library had moon chairs in them and we had a lava lamp and mini space shuttles on top of the book case. The sign over the library said "NASA headquarters..Reading is essential". Also each of my chalk boards had a name. Flight Plan-daily schedule, Special Training-character ed board, Mission Control-Objectives and standards, Training-homeork board.

For jobs, I made simple badges with the job title on one side and the job description on the other. I had teams of 4 and they had to choose a space science name. In their groups that all had a job: Mission Specialist-materials manager, Pilot-group reporter, Co-Pilot-group recorder, & Computer Specialist-paper monitor.

Other ideas I had but didn't get to were Astronaut of the Month for student of the month; Our vocabulary is blasting off-word wall; We're blasting off to a stellar year-welcome board with students names in stars or space shuttles.