

Space Theme

Compiled by: LAH

Constellations - Take a wire coat hanger pull the bottom of the hanger to create a diamond shape. Wrap plastic wrap (I have not had much luck with generic wrap for this activity.) Place a picture of a constellation underneath the plastic wrap, use fabric glow in the dark paint to paint the dots. I supply several choices of constellations to choose from.

Planet reports - Internet & book research (One of our standards consists of the students writing a multi-paragraph report.) I begin by have the students write a friendly letter to an alien from a planet of their choice. They must introduce themselves and ask at least 3 questions that can be answered with factual information. Some of my students have asked if they go to school. That is a great question, but I do not expect that as one of the 3 questions. Last year, one of my creative writers wrote questions like, "Do you have to where a coat to school in the morning?" I questioned this. My student replied that the alien would have to tell her what the atmosphere was like and we could look that up. The letter writing is followed by the report, picture, and a model of the planet created by the students at home.

Postcards from the planets - Read the book 'Postcards from Pluto' by ?author?. Have the students create their own addressed to the school. Center idea: Make constellation cans by collecting old film canisters, drill or punch holes in the shape of a constellation. In the center, the students make the constellation to the correct name tag.