Vital Information

Subject(s): Science
Grade Level: 5th
Topic or Unit of Study: Solar System and creative writing
Objective(s): Students will:
  - Write a creative story about taking a trip into space.
  - Demonstrate knowledge of the writing process.
  - Show knowledge of story map

Academic Goals: Students will write a creative story about taking a trip into space. They will also demonstrate knowledge of writing process.

Social Goals: Community building by working together.

Summary/Purpose: This activity is to allow students to write a creative story based on their knowledge of the solar system and its characteristics.

Implementation

Learning Context: The setting for the lesson will take place inside the classroom. The learning context for this lesson is designed for group learning, although students will be writing their own story. This lesson should be presented during science time.

Procedures:

Anticipatory set: (10 minutes)

“Imagine if you could take a trip into space. Where would you go? What time of year would you go? What would you bring with you? How would you get there?”
Explain to students that they will be writing a story titled “My Trip Into Space”.

Lesson:

Using the graphic organizer (see attached), brainstorm with children various ideas. Write them on the board as you go. Once the brainstorming is complete, hand out the organizers and ask students to fill them in. They will create their rough draft from this.
When their rough drafts are complete, have students find a partner and peer edit (hand out red pencils for this activity). Students will then create their final draft, after making the appropriate changes (use special paper—see attached).

**Check for Understanding:** This is done throughout the lesson by asking questions before, during, and after the activity.

**Reflection/Closure:** "What did we learn from writing our story"? Be sure to do a re-cap session of questions at the end.

**Collaboration:** Students will collaborate while participating in the discussion and activities for this lesson.

**Time Allotment:** This will carry out over 3-4 days.

**Materials and Resources:**

*Instructional Materials*

a) Graphic organizer for each student  
b) Pencils  
c) Paper  
d) Red pencils (for editing)  
e) Special solar system paper (see attached) for final draft

**Assessment:** I will assess my students by their participation in class and also by reviewing their story.

**Standards:** This lesson meets the following California Science and Language Arts Standards:

**Science:**

5.1: The Sun, an average star, is the central and largest body in the solar system. The solar system consists of planets and other bodies that orbit the Sun in predictable paths. As a basis for understanding this concept: Students know the Sun, an average star, is the central and largest body in the solar system and is composed primarily of hydrogen and helium.

5.2: Students know the solar system includes the planet Earth, the Moon, the Sun, eight other planets and their satellites, and smaller objects, such as asteroids and comets.
5.3: Students know the path of a planet around the Sun is due to the gravitational attraction between the Sun and the planet.

Language Arts:

1.0: Writing Strategies
Students write clear, coherent, and focused essays. The writing exhibits the students' awareness of the audience and purpose. Essays contain formal introductions, supporting evidence, and conclusions. Students progress through the stages of the writing process as needed.

2.0: Writing Applications (Genres and Their Characteristics)
Students write narrative, expository, persuasive, and descriptive texts of at least 500 to 700 words in each genre. Student writing demonstrates a command of standard American English and the research, organizational, and drafting strategies outlined in Writing Standard 1.0.

1.1: Create multiple-paragraph narrative compositions: a. Establish and develop a situation or plot. b. Describe the setting. c. Present an ending.

1.2: Create multiple-paragraph expository compositions: a. Establish a topic, important ideas, or events in sequence or chronological order. b. Provide details and transitional expressions that link one paragraph to another in a clear line of thought. c. Offer a concluding paragraph that summarizes important ideas and details.