

**Project FOCUS
Best Lessons
FIRST GRADE**

Title of Lesson: Moon's Surface

Theme: Earth/Space Science

Unit Number: **Unit Title:**

Performance Standard(s) Covered (enter code):

S1CS4

S1CS6

Enduring Standards (objectives of activity):

Habits of Mind

- Asks questions
- Uses numbers to quantify
- Works in a group
- Uses tools to measure and view
- Looks at how parts of things are needed
- Describes and compares using physical attributes
- Observes using senses
- Draws and describes observations

Content (key terms and topics covered):

Space, planets, moon

Learning Activity (Description in Steps)

Abstract(limit 100 characters): This experiment informs students about the moon's surface.

Details: Before we did the activity, I talked about the moon. Most students thought the moon would be very smooth because of what they see in the sky. I told them about Neil Armstrong, and how he said he could see his footprints on the moon's surface. I told them how the moon's surface was relatively rough. Then, I poured some plaster of paris in my big bowl that was empty. I poured a little bit of water into the bowl with the plaster. I stirred the mixture. I added water accordingly. I let everyone stir the mixture with careful supervision. Once the plaster was mixed sufficiently, it resembled wet concrete. I took a boot, and placed it in the bowl. I made sure to do the left boot since Neil Armstrong's first foot on the moon was his left foot. I took it out of the mixture, and the boot print was there in the plaster. Around the print, I made craters and rough spots. The first graders wanted to touch the moon. So, I let each student do a finger print in the moon. Then, I wiped their hands off with the paper towels. They thought this was awesome! They said things like "This is real science!"

Materials Needed (Type and Quantity):

Plaster of paris

Big bowl

Water

Large spoon or stirring rod

Pair of boots

Paper towels

Picture of the moon

Notes and Tips (suggested changes, alternative methods, cautions):

It is imperative that the kids do not eat the plaster of paris. Also, make sure everyone stays orderly while outside.

Sources/References:

1) Harcourt Science, Georgia Edition

2)

3)