Project FOCUS
Best Lessons
KINDERGARTEN

Title of Lesson: **What Comes Up, Must Come Down!**
Theme: **Earth/Space Science**
Unit Number: **?** **Unit Title:** **Motion, Movement and Gravity**
Performance Standard(s) Covered (enter codes):
SKP3

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):
Gravity

Learning Activity (Description in Steps)
Abstract (limit 100 characters): The purpose of this activity is to help students understand the effects of gravity.
Details: A balloon is held above a group of students. Students will prepare to blow through their straws by keeping their straws upright with the longer part facing upward and the shorter part in the mouth. Students then use their straws and blow air under the balloon in an attempt to keep the balloon afloat once the balloon is let go (resisting gravity) Once the balloon falls to the ground ask students for their feedback (what did gravity do? should we try a different balloon size?

Materials Needed (Type and Quantity):
Straws that bend (1 straw/person)
Small Balloon/4students
Medium Balloon/4students
Large Balloon/4 students

Notes and Tips (suggested changes, alternative methods, cautions):
Notes-the straws were a little to small to create the necessary amount of air needed to keep the balloon suspended in the air.

Changes-starting with a large balloon, then create bigger ones because they seem to be easier to keep afloat, use larger straws (or create a straw out of construction paper) to create more air , and making larger groups of students so there is more air being generated.

Safety Concerns-students tend to only focus on the balloon and won't watch where they are going, which may result in two or more students bumping into each other. To rectify this problem explain to students that it is okay if the balloon floats away from the group, its just gravity! And what comes up MUST come down!

Sources/References:

1) Kids Science Experiments: http://www.kids-science-experiments.com/balloonchallenge.html

2) Georgia Performance Standards

3)