Lesson 3: *We Choose Space!*

What’s happening in the sky?

**Standard:** Observe, describe, and record patterns of objects in the sky, including the appearance of the moon.

**Objective:** Students will compare and contrast a changing sky by making daytime and nighttime observations.

**Procedure:**
1. **Class Discussion** – As a class, discuss with students the differences in the appearance of the sky when they go outside during daylight hours versus nighttime hours.
2. **Independent Practice** – During class time go outside and have students make an accurate sketch of what the sky looks like. *Remind students never to look directly at the sun!*
3. **Independent Practice** – Have students continue to make observations every day, one during daylight hours and one after dark, for a period of at least two weeks. If you desire to have daytime moon observations, start your 2 weeks at first quarter moon and go through third quarter. (Reproduce this page as needed)
4. **Independent Practice** – During the time students are making observations have students research various myths about the Sun and Moon. Students should choose at least 2 myths about both the Sun and Moon to summarize. The following website is a great resource for myths, [http://www.windows2universe.org/mythology/planets/Earth/moon.html](http://www.windows2universe.org/mythology/planets/Earth/moon.html).
5. **Conclusion** – At the conclusion of the observations students should understand that the Sun is in approximately the same place every day when observed at the same time. They should also conclude that the Moon is in different locations and different portions of the Moon are lit over the two week period.

**Assessments:** Writing across the curriculum – Using the elements of their myth summaries students should compose their own myth about the Sun or Moon.
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**What’s happening in the sky?**

**Directions:** In the boxes below make a sketch of the Sun and Moon in the sky each day. Try to observe the Moon at the same time every evening. Include the ground in your picture, indicate the direction of view, and place the object as accurately above the ground as possible.

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**What’s happening in the sky?**

**Directions:** Using the web, research myths about the Sun and Moon. Summarize at least two myths about the Sun and Moon.

*Myth 1:*

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*Myth 2:*

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*Myth 3:*

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*Myth 4:*

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**What’s happening in the sky?**

**Directions:** Using the ideas that you have summarized from your research, create your own myth about the Sun or Moon. Remember your myth should tell how the Sun or Moon was created.