

Unit: Earth & Sky

What can I learn about Earth & Sky?

Things to do with your children at home!

- *Continue to read to your child- there are many online resources to listen to stories!
- *Play games (board games, card games, physical games, make up your own)!
- *Count items around the house- do this at mealtimes, while doing chores, on walks, etc.
- *Review shapes & colors- again, build it into your new daily routines!
- *Let your children help at home with chores, meals, cleaning, laundry, etc.
- *Google a slime recipe to make at home (have your child help with measuring & pouring)!
- *Draw daily/keep a journal! Write about things you do together, movies you watch, games you play, etc!
- *Practice name writing- use pens, pencils, crayons, markers! First initial only is capitalized!
- *Practice letter recognition- both capital and lowercase!
- *Check out some free apps/websites (limit time) from the list below!

<https://www.abcya.com/grades/prek>

<https://www.storylineonline.net/>

<https://www.starfall.com/h/index-kindergarten.php>

<https://mysteryscience.com/school-closure-planning>

<https://classroommagazines.scholastic.com/support/learnathome.html>

Or pick your own from the list here: <http://www.amazingeducationalresources.com/>

Be sure to check out these units to explore more life cycles from the last unit:

Chickens-

<https://classroommagazines.scholastic.com/support/learnathome/grades-prek-k-week-2.html>

Ladybugs and Caterpillars/Butterflies-

<https://classroommagazines.scholastic.com/support/learnathome/grades-prek-k-week-3.html>

Frogs-

<https://classroommagazines.scholastic.com/support/learnathome/grades-1-2-week-3.html>

Math Activities (flash cards attached):

Post-It Number Line (from Busy Toddler)- One easy way to get kids moving is to put Post-it notes with numbers (1-10) around the room. Have your child look for the numbers, then put them in numerical order on the wall!

Look for Numbers (from Laughing & Learning)- Find the numbers 0-10 on objects in your home! Look on clocks, TV, ovens, etc!

A Number is Always a Number (from Laughing & Learning)- Gather 10 small toys (legos, dolls, blocks, etc). Have your child pick a number card, identify the number. Have them arrange that many objects in different ways (in a row, a tower, circular, scattered, etc) and practice counting and understanding that the number won't change based on the arrangement.

More or Less (from Laughing & Learning)- Both you and your child chooses a card from a flash card deck. Your child has to state whether his/hers is more or less than your card. Let them use toys or other counters (pasta, marshmallows, cereal, etc) to count if they need to.

Vocabulary- sand, soil, rock, earth, sky, moon, stars, sun, mountain, pebbles, shell, season, spring, summer, autumn, winter, snow, sun, clud, rain, storm, wind, weather, rainbow, shadow, light, dark, day, night, cobbler, afternoon, bottles, litter, clean, bag, paper, plastic, metal, recycle, reduce, reuse, garbage

Week 1: What can I learn about the earth and sky?

This week starts a new unit of study: Earth and Sky. This week, the unit focuses on natural items found on the earth and will touch upon the sun and moon, as well as lightness/dark and heat/light.

Books: *Sylvester and the Magic Pebble* by William Steig
Rock Collecting by Elaine Pascoe
Henny Penny

Visit:

<https://classroommagazines.scholastic.com/support/learnathome/grades-prek-k-week-2.html>

Scroll down to Day 8 in Week 2 of Pre-K & click on "Take me there!"

*Click on "Watch the Story" and enjoy *Sylvester and the Magic Pebble* by William Steig!

*On another day, click on "Read the Story" and read aloud or click on the speaker to have *Rock Collecting* by Elaine Pascoe read to your child.

* On different days this week, check out the *Rocks and Minerals* video and start your own rock collection!

* Check out a video of the story *Henny Penny* at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5DtB2f-YIbA> Discuss what in the story is on the ground, in the sky, and what is real/make believe.

After reading/watching the stories: Talk about what you see when you look in the sky and on the earth. Where can you find soil? Sand? Water? The sun? How are things found on the earth the same and different from those found in the sky? How are things in the sky different during the day then at night? Discuss which gives us heat and light.

Activities from DLM:

**Look at the moon in the night sky for the next few weeks. Keep a moon journal and draw a picture of its shape nightly- use black paper and white crayon or chalk.

**Talk about different places on earth (beach, forest, rivers, desert, etc) and how they each look.

**Draw a picture of things you see on the ground (dirt, mountain,river, rocks, sand, etc) and in the sky (moon, stars, clouds, rainbows, sun).

**Make your own sensory tub by filling a shallow box with soil, sand, rocks, shells, water, etc. Talk about where each of these are found. Talk about how each feels- rough, heavy, etc..

** Try a science experiment: Mix sand or soil, pebbles, and water in a clear bottle. Shake it and ask your child to observe and describe what happens. Describe it again after it settles.

Other Activities:

**Visit <https://classroommagazines.scholastic.com/support/learnathome/grades-prek-k.html>

Explore the Moon activities and stories!

** Visit

<https://classroommagazines.scholastic.com/support/learnathome/grades-1-2-week-2.html> to look at stories and activities about stars!

**Take a virtual tour of a National Park! Check out these photos from Yellowstone National Park and talk about objects that are on the earth and objects in the sky!

<https://www.nps.gov/media/photo/gallery.htm?id=5A1536B8-1DD8-B71B-0B19DB167E2B0AB1>

Math Activities:

This week, we would be discussing number and measurement comparisons!

<https://www.engageny.org/resource/prekindergarten-mathematics-module-4-topic-f-lesson-19>

<https://www.engageny.org/resource/prekindergarten-mathematics-module-4-topic-f-lesson-20>

<https://www.engageny.org/resource/prekindergarten-mathematics-module-4-topic-f-lesson-21>

<https://www.engageny.org/resource/prekindergarten-mathematics-module-4-topic-f-lesson-22>

**Collect 5 containers with lids. Give your child 3 containers and count them. Give your child 2 lids and have your child count them as they place the lid on the container. Ask, "What do you notice?" Discuss needing more lids, not having enough. Use the term "fewer than"- there are fewer lids than containers. Repeat with different combinations.

**Use crackers or another small treat. Have your child count the crackers as you put one on each of three plates. Ask, "How many crackers? How many plates?" and discuss- they counted "the same" number of plates and crackers. Repeat with different amounts of plates and crackers.

**Pretend to have a lemonade stand or tea party. Give your child 4 cups & 5 straws/spoons and tell them to place one straw/spoon in each cup. Discuss what happens and be sure to use the term "more than"- "You have more straws than cups."

**Give your child 20 blocks or legos and have them make 2 matching towers. Discuss- "You made two towers that have "the same" number of legos/blocks as each other"

Week 2: What weather can I observe each day?

During this week, the children observe and discuss different types of weather and how the weather can affect what we do. They will also talk about how we dress in each season and what weather is found in each season. They will also record weather daily for a week.

Books: *Come On, Rain!* by Karen Hesse
Rainy Weather Days by Pam Rosenberg

Visit: <https://classroommagazines.scholastic.com/support/learnathome/grades-1-2.html>

Scroll down to Day 2 “Earth Science- Weather” & click on “Take me there!”

*Click on “Watch the Story” and enjoy *Come On, Rain!* by Karen Hesse being read aloud!

*On another day, click on “Read the Story” and read aloud or click on the speaker to have *Rainy Weather Days* by Pam Rosenberg read to your child.

* On a different day, watch the video, *It’s Raining, It’s Pouring* then listen to the nursery rhyme at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=avurCRJiUj0>

After reading/watching the stories: Discuss things you can do and wear when it is raining, snowing, windy, or sunny. Discuss the 4 seasons and how you can dress in each season. Describe what you can do in each season.

Activities from DLM:

**Use the attached weather chart and track the weather for a week.

**Conduct a science experiment. Cut out shapes and attach them to a dark piece of paper. Leave the paper in direct sunlight in a window for a few days. Remove the cardboard and discuss what happened and why.

**Fill a large bowl with water. Place objects in the bowl to see if they float or sink.

** Jump in puddles after a rainy day.

**Interview family members about their favorite seasons and weather and draw pictures of all the fun things they can do during that season or weather.

**Draw or paint a colorful rainbow.

Other Activities:

**Pretend you are the wind and try to blow objects across a table. Have a race with a sibling.

**Visit <https://classroommagazines.scholastic.com/support/learnathome/grades-1-2-week-3.html> and learn about rainbows & snow!

**Visit <https://classroommagazines.scholastic.com/support/learnathome/grades-prek-k.html> to learn about Spring!

Math Activities:

This week, we will compare quantities using numerals.

<https://www.engageny.org/resource/prekindergarten-mathematics-module-4-topic-g-lesson-23>

<https://www.engageny.org/resource/prekindergarten-mathematics-module-4-topic-g-lesson-24>

<https://www.engageny.org/resource/prekindergarten-mathematics-module-4-topic-g-lesson-25>

<https://www.engageny.org/resource/prekindergarten-mathematics-module-4-topic-g-lesson-26>

<https://www.engageny.org/resource/prekindergarten-mathematics-module-4-topic-g-lesson-27>

**Hold up 1-5 crayons in each hand. Have your child use “more than” and “the same as” statements to compare: 3 crayons is more than 1 crayon/ 2 crayons in the right hand is the same as 2 hands in the left hand

**Use blocks or boxes to create towers that are greater than or equal to: a tower of 5 is greater than a tower of 4/ 3 is equal to 3

**Using pasta/cereal/cookies, count different amounts on two plates. Discuss the relationship in terms of “less than”

**Repeat the tower activity, using numeral cards this time. Show a numeral, have your child show you that many fingers. Build a tower with that many pieces. Show another numeral. Have your child show that many fingers and build another tower. Talk about the relationship- more than, less than, equal to

**Play a partner game... each player gets 5 blocks and numeral cards 1-5 (mixed up, face down). When the adult says “go”, each person flips over the top card and builds a tower with that many pieces. When done, describe the towers using the phrases discussed (fewer than, less than, taller, more than, greater than, equal to, same as, etc)

Week 3: What can I learn about day and night?

This week, we will compare day and night. We will talk about changes in the sky over time and what activities are best done at night and during the day.

Books: *Night Monkey, Day Monkey* by Julia Donaldson
The Elves & the Shoemaker retold by Merideth Hairston

Visit:

*Visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ICxL009pua0> to listen to *Night Monkey, Day Monkey* by Julia Donaldson

*Check out these two videos as well:

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wf-CRKsTYGs>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4XP0zdN8icM>
- Visit <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BHKVaTmv-3o> to listen to *The Elves & the Shoemaker* retold by Merideth Hairston. Discuss what happens in the story at night & in the day time.

After reading/watching the stories: Discuss : What is in the sky at night? During the day? Where does light come from? What can you do at night? What can you do during the day?

Activities from DLM:

**Make shadow pictures! Put a doll, toy, or action figure on a piece of paper so you can see its shadow. Trace around it!

**Make shadow puppets on the wall! Search for a tutorial!

**Draw a picture of your home in day time and at night time. Talk about the similarities and differences.

**Google a landmark like the Statue of Liberty or the Eiffel Tower. Find a picture during the day and at night. Talk about what you see.

**Make a list of things you do at night and during the day!

Other Activities:

Visit <https://classroommagazines.scholastic.com/support/learnathome/grades-prek-k.html> and <https://classroommagazines.scholastic.com/support/learnathome/grades-1-2-week-2.html> to learn about the moon and stars.

Math Activities:

This week, we will review past activities!

**Practice counting 5 objects in a circular arrangement, a line, and a scattered arrangement. Review first and last and how to mark where you start counting.

** Practice using terms “exactly enough, enough with some extra, and not enough with putting toys in boxes.

**Use small toys or snacks to make groups and practice identifying the groups that have more and less.

** Make a tower with blocks. Have your child make a matching tower. Count the pieces and have them point to a matching numeral card.

**Make 2 towers, not matching and have your child tell you how they differ (more than, less than, the same as)

Week 4: Why is caring for the earth and sky important?

During this week, the children will learn about keeping the earth clean by reducing, reusing, and recycling.

Books: *I Stink!* by Kate and Jim McMullan
Garbage Trucks by Mary Lindeen

Visit:

<https://classroommagazines.scholastic.com/support/learnathome/grades-prek-k-week-2.html>

- *Scroll down to Day 9 “Social Studies- Trash & Recycling” & click on “Take me there!”
- *Click on “Watch the Story” and enjoy *I Stink!* by Kate and Jim McMullan being read aloud!
- *On another day, click on “Read the Story” and read aloud or click on the speaker to have *Garbage Trucks* by Mary Lindeen read to your child.
- * On a different day, watch the video, *What Happens to Our Trash? and discuss*

After reading/watching the stories: Discuss : What does Earth give us? Who, besides people, use these things? Why is it important to clean up areas on Earth?

Activities from DLM:

- **Make a sock puppet from an old sock.
- **Have your child help sort the recycling bin into paper, plastic, and metal.
- **Have your child make a tree collage by cutting trees from magazines and glueing them onto a piece of paper (or even a newspaper!).
- **Make recycled 3D art. Create something from empty containers!
- **Discuss the Reduce, Reuse, Recycle symbol and review what each means and how you can practice this at home.

Other Activities:

- **Watch and discuss the tale of *Johnny Appleseed* at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ev4-8oPEnZY>
- ** Build a structure from empty boxes.
- ** Take a walk and pick up trash you see.

Math Activities:

This week, we will practice writing numerals 0-5.

<https://www.engageny.org/resource/prekindergarten-mathematics-module-5-topic-a-lesson-1>

<https://www.engageny.org/resource/prekindergarten-mathematics-module-5-topic-a-lesson-2>

<https://www.engageny.org/resource/prekindergarten-mathematics-module-5-topic-a-lesson-3>

<https://www.engageny.org/resource/prekindergarten-mathematics-module-5-topic-a-lesson-4>

<https://www.engageny.org/resource/prekindergarten-mathematics-module-5-topic-a-lesson-5>

****Practice identifying the numeral 1-5 and counting objects.**

****Use the number rhymes while practicing printing the numbers:**

-Curve from the top, be a hero! Close the loop and write a zero!

-Top to bottom, then I'm done. I just wrote the number 1!

-Half a moon, there's more to do; slide to the right, I wrote a 2!

-Backwards C, backwards C, that is how I write a 3!

-Down the side, to the right some more. Top to bottom, I've written a 4!

-Down the side, around the hive. Give it a hat, I've 5!

****Practice writing numerals with different utensils- crayons, pens, markers, in the air, sidewalk chalk, paint, in shaving cream on a table, in a salt or sand tray!**

****Roll playdough into the numeral shapes!**