

Grade 5 - Science



Unit 1 – Space Systems

Space Explorer Poster Challenge

DUE
Monday, November 2nd

G.R.A.S.P.

G

GOAL

Create an educational poster that teaches one key space concept.

R

ROLE

Work as a NASA Junior Educator who explains science clearly.

A

AUDIENCE

Teach curious third-grade students at a children's science fair.

S

SITUATION

NASA needs a quick, eye-catching poster that makes one big idea simple, visual, and fun.

P

PRODUCT

Create a Space Explorer's Poster with an explanation, visual, mini-activity or example, and reflection.

Choose One Space Concept

Your entire poster should teach one idea well.

EARTH'S GRAVITY

Explain that Earth's gravity **pulls objects downward**. Show a drawing or diagram and suggest a **simple drop test**.



THE SUN'S BRIGHTNESS

Explain that the Sun appears **larger and brighter than other stars** because it is **much closer to Earth**. A **flashlight-distance comparison** works well.



PATTERNS IN THE SKY

Use a graph or chart to show a pattern such as **changing shadows**, day and night, or seasonal star visibility.



Every Poster Needs Four Parts

Make each part easy for a third grader to understand.

1 SIMPLE EXPLANATION

State the main science idea accurately.
Use short sentences and familiar words.

2 SUPPORTING VISUAL

Add at least one drawing, diagram, or
chart that helps explain the idea.

3 MINI-ACTIVITY OR EXAMPLE

Give younger students something safe
and easy to try or imagine.

4 REFLECTION SENTENCE

Complete: "This idea is important
because it helps us understand ____."

How the **100 Points** Are Earned

30 **Explanation** accurate, complete, easy to understand

20 **Visual or Diagram** colorful and directly supports the idea

20 **Mini-Activity or Example** engaging, clear, easy to try

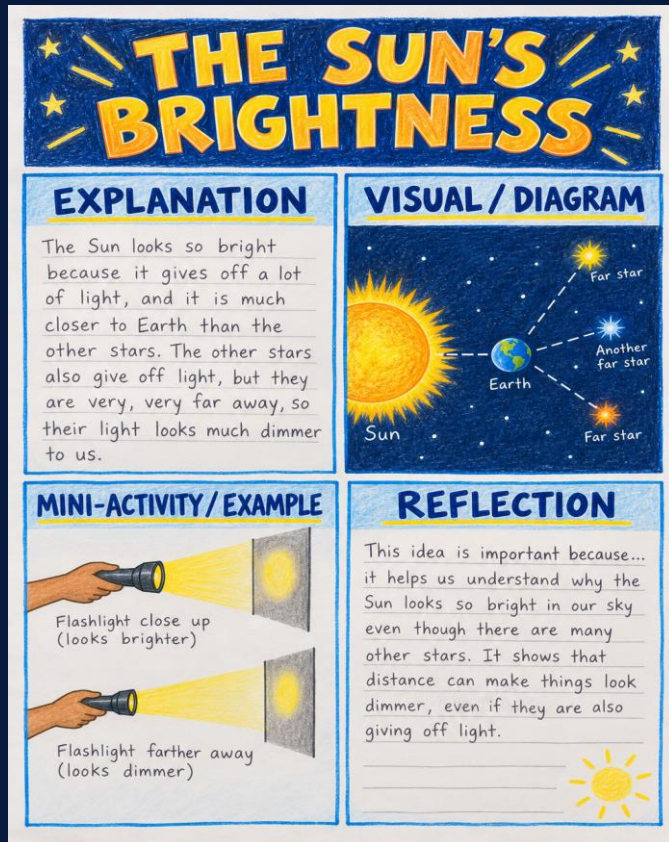
10 **Reflection** thoughtful and complete

20 **Neatness and Effort** organized, finished, strong effort

TOTAL 100

Example: Excellent Poster

Complete, accurate, visual, and easy to follow.



95 / 100

SAMPLE SCORE

Explanation 29/30

Visual 19/20

Mini-Activity 19/20

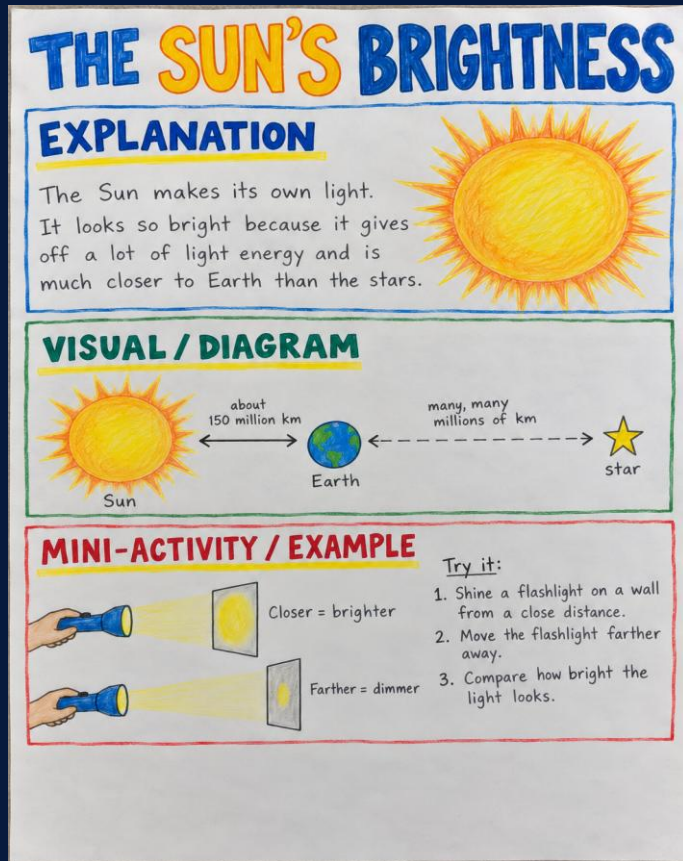
Reflection 10/10

Neatness and Effort 18/20

Why it scores highly: Every section supports the same idea. The distance comparison and flashlight activity make the science visible.

Example: Developing Poster

The main idea is present, but important details need work.



75 / 100

SAMPLE SCORE

Explanation	23/30
Visual	15/20
Mini-Activity	14/20
Reflection	8/10
Neatness and Effort	15/20

Why points are lost: The explanation needs more detail, labels are limited, and the entire reflection section is missing.

Example: Incomplete Poster

A beginning, but several required parts are missing.



45 / 100

SAMPLE SCORE

Explanation	15/30
Visual	8/20
Mini-Activity	5/20
Reflection	4/10
Neatness and Effort	13/20

Why points are lost: The poster has no clear distance comparison, no usable mini-activity, no complete reflection, and too much empty space.

A Simple Work Plan

Leave time to check the science and improve the presentation.

- 1 Choose your topic** Gravity, Sun brightness, or a sky pattern
- 2 Plan the four parts** Explanation, visual, activity, reflection
- 3 Create a rough draft** Check accuracy before making the final poster
- 4 Build the final poster** Use readable lettering, color, and balanced spacing
- 5 Use the rubric** Make improvements before you turn it in

READY FOR LAUNCH?

Before you submit, ask yourself:

- Can a third grader understand my explanation?
- Does my visual teach the science idea?
- Is my mini-activity clear and connected?
- Did I complete the reflection sentence?
- Is my poster neat, colorful, and finished?

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