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Summer 6-2017

Characteristics of the Universe (8th grade)

Veronica Mansfield vmansfield@rocketmail.com

Meggan Partain mparta@neisd.net

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Understanding By Design

Unit Title: Characteristics of the Universe

Grade Level: 8th

Subject/Topic Area(s): Middle School Science

Designed By: Veronica Mansfield and Meggan Partain

Time Frame: Two weeks (10 days)

School District: North East Independent School District, San Antonio, TX

School: Krueger Middle School

School Address & Phone: 438 Lanark Dr, San Antonio, TX 78218 (210)356-4700

Stage 1 – Desired Results				
	Tra	ansfer		
Established Goals 8.8(A) describe components of the universe, including	 Students will independently use their learning to plotting "new" stars on an HR diagram based on characteristics presented in a table format use google draw to create HR diagram model of the new stars 			
stars, nebulae, and	Me	eaning		
stars, nebulae, and galaxies, and use models such as the Hertzsprung-Russell diagram for classification 8.8(B) recognize that the Sun is a medium-sized star located in a spiral arm in the Milky Way galaxy and that the Sun is many	 Understandings Students will understand that Earth is part of a larger system of objects in the universe. Humans understand the universe by categorizing objects into groups of similar characteristics. 	 Essential Questions Where is Earth located in space? What do stars, nebula, and galaxies have in common? How do scientists study objects that we can't touch or measure? 		
thousands of times	thousands of times Acquisition			
closer to Earth than any other star	Knowledge Students will know • characteristics of galaxies (shape, type of stars, age of	Skills Students will be able to • determine characteristics of		

 stars) identify a nebulae , star and galaxy from picture or written description the sun is a medium sized, main sequence star located on the spiral arm of the Milky Way galaxy The sun is thousands of times closer to the Earth than any other star H-R diagram shows luminosity, temperature, size and color of a star The x-axis of an HR diagram decreases from left to right features of major star groups (such as main sequence stars) 	 stars using an HR diagram plot a star on the HR diagram given its characteristics compare characteristics of stars using information on the HR diagram classify galaxies according to characteristics List astronomical objects in order of size interpret information given in a table
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Stage 2 – Evidence

CODE	Evaluative	
(M or T)	Criteria	
	(for rubric)	
Т	<u>Rubric</u>	 Performance Task(s) Students will demonstrate meaning-making and transfer by Student groups will be given a table of 12 renamed stars based upon the characteristics of real stars. The table provides the students with 2 of 4 characteristics to include color, temperature, size, and brightness/luminosity. The students need to fill in the missing characteristics of the 12 stars in the table. Once they have completed the table, students will use google
М		 draw to color, plot, and label the stars (using the HR diagram <u>template</u>) based upon their characteristics. Other Evidence (e.g., formative) Quizizz on Characteristics of the Universe Sort galaxies using pictures or written description (card cort)
		 Sort galaxies using pictures of written description (card sort) Exit tickets
		Stage 3 – Learning Plan
CODE		

(A, M, T)		
	Learning Activities	Progress Monitoring (e.g., formative data)
	Day 1:	
A	 Gallery walk activity: students visit each poster as a preview of the unit vocabulary they will see. At each poster, the student will add a sticky note about what they see in the picture. Posters will include galaxies, nebula, HR diagram, Sun, solar system, moon. Posters include sentences stems for students who may need additional support Watch: Mindblowing! Comparing the Earth to the rest of the universe (3:35) When video concludes, ask students what were object that were mentioned in video. Record on board or could post these terms on word wall for later use. Introduce the term universe. Introduction to 3 types of galaxies & characteristics: PPT presentation with notes. PPT can be given to students through nearpod, peardeck or google classroom. If this option is selected, a linguistically simplified version is available here. 	Teacher review of student generated post-it notes.
A	 Day 2: Practice: identify galaxy type and characteristics using brainrush flashcards. (can use notes from previous day) Vocab activity: Using context clues, determine what each word means. (luminosity, dim, bulge, and irregular) Galaxy Riddles exit ticket 	Exit ticket
A	 Day 3: Introduce nebula & stars. Watch: <u>Star</u> and <u>nebula</u> (emphasize dust & gas; students don't need to know types of nebula). Speed Dating: Divide students into two groups. Each group will participate in speed dating activity. Goal is to have students use vocabulary to have structured conversations about stars, nebulae, universe & galaxy. (students may use interactive notebook during this activity). 	Teacher observation/listening to students while participating in speed dating activity.
Μ	 Day 4: Create: Students create a one pager review to review stars, nebulae and galaxies. <u>Students handout.</u> To scaffold assignment for students, teacher can provide page numbers from interactive notebook where material can be found. May also want to show a 1 pager example for a different topic. 	Teacher conversations with students will monitoring student work.

А	Day 5:	Formative quizizz
	 <u>Quizizz</u> on Characteristics of the Universe 	assessment on
		characteristics of the
		universe
A and M	Day 6: Intro HR	
	• Show HR diagram from Day 1 Gallery Walk activity.	Using small white board
	Read a few of the post-its from gallery walk to the	& marker, ask students
	group.	to use their HR diagram
	 Each student should receive a personal HR diagram 	to answer these
	where common star and group names are given	questions one at a time.
	(stemscopes). This chart should be added to interactive	Remember to have
	notebook.	students not reveal
	 With your shoulder partner, brainstorm & record in 	their answer until they
	your ntbk as many statements about this chart. (2 min.)	hear the bell.
	 Have students share an item from their group (use 	-What group is the Sun
	randomizing tool)	in?
	 As class, label HR diagram with temperature 	-What color is the star
	descriptions (hotter, medium, cooler)Remind students	Deneb?
	that all stars are very hotcooler just means not as hot.	-Where are the
	 Label brightness (brighter, medium, dimmer). Remind 	brightest stars located?
	students of the meaning of the word dim. Some classes	Top, Middle, Bottom
	may benefit from having a visual representation of	-A synonym for the
	dimmer.	word luminosity is?
	 Have students color the spectral classes (Blue, white, 	-What color star is
	yellow, orange, red) on HR chart.	hotter? orange or
	 Perform formative assessment 	white?
	Day 7:	
Т	 Gizmo from <u>www.explorelearning.com</u> on the HR 	Exit ticket
	diagram. Click on "find gizmo", type in HR diagram, and	
	click on the first link titled "HR Diagram". Use the	
	student exploration sheet during the simulation.	
	Label parts of an HR diagram for reference in interactive	
	notebook, see example below.	

	<figure></figure>	
Т	Day 8: Mob-Stars Project day	Performance
	 Introduce performance assessment to students. Give 	Assessment
	each student a blank HR diagram to use for information.	
	 Ividke student groups of 3-4 Each student will be responsible for plotting 3-4 stars 	
	(depending on group sizes) on the HR diagram	
	 After explanation of project, the students can start to fill 	
	in the missing characteristics of the 12 stars in the table.	
	Student Handout	
	• <u>Answer Key</u>	
Т	Day 9: Mob-Stars Project day	Performance
	Students complete the missing information of the table	Assessment
	Using the <u>Google Draw template</u> , students will begin to	
	piot their stars from the information in the table. (Note:	
	 Fach student is responsible for making a key on the HR 	
	diagram of the stars that they were responsible for.	
Т	Day 10: Mob-Stars Project day	Performance
	• Students finish labeling their HR diagram according to	Assessment
	the rubric.	

Charac. of Universe Vocabulary Activity

Context Clues- Read the sentence before, and after the word and try to find clues or examples that explain the unknown word.

Clothing stores sometimes have clothes that are defective or messed up, such as when pant legs are different lengths. These **irregular** clothes are often on sale or sent to outlet stores to get rid of them.

irregular means:

Movie theaters often **dim** the lights when the movie starts. This is because the **luminosity** of the lights would cast a glare on the screen and you wouldn't be able to see the movie.

luminosity means:

dim means:

The Hulk's muscles **bulge** when he gets angry causing his shirt to rip open.

bulge means:



Galaxy Riddles Exit Ticket

- The Andromeda Galaxy is the closest galaxy to the Milky Way. Andromeda contains a concentrated bulge of matter in the middle, surrounded by a disk of gas, dust, and stars. It is a ______ galaxy.
- Cosmo Redshift 7 is one of the oldest and most distant galaxies. It has no definite shape so it is a ______ galaxy.
- 3. M87 is a galaxy that has a supermassive black hole at its center. Because of the black hole, this galaxy has little gas or dust and is circular in shape. M87 is a galaxy.
- NGC 1365 is a galaxy that is twice as long as our Milky Way galaxy. Its bar, made up of two massive arms, rotates clockwise and completes a rotation every 350 million years. This is an example of a ______ galaxy.

Galaxy Riddles Exit Ticket

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Mana a .	
iname:	

Date:

HR Diagram

	Get the Gizmo ready:		
Luminosity and temperature	 Click Reset. Select H-R diagram Select Move all Select Sort Stars Check Show Star Groups 		



Using the HR Diagram you created in Gizmo, answer the following questions.

- 1. How does the diagram classify the stars? (Look at the graph's axis)
- 2. What is unusual about the HR diagram's x-axis?
- 3. What does luminosity mean?
- Click on the graph. Where is our Sun located in the HR diagram?
 A. Supergiants
 - B. Giants
 - C. White Dwarfs
 - D. Main Sequence
- Which group are most stars found in?
 A. Giants B. White dwarf C. Main Sequence D. Supergiants
- 6. How would you describe main sequence stars in the HR Diagram?
- 7. Click on the stars in the graph. Which of the following stars is a bright and cool star?

A. Barnard's star B. Antares C. Rigel D. Regulus

8. Click on the stars in the graph. Which of the following stars is a bright and hot star?

A. Sirius B B. Alpha Centauri B C. Spica D. Procyon B

- 9. Click on the stars in the graph. Which of the following stars is a hot and dim star?
 - A. Sirius B B. North Star C. Barnard's Star D. Zeta Eridani
- 11. For most stars, what does a higher temperature tend to go with?
 - A. A lower luminosity
 - B. A higher luminosity
 - C. A red color
 - D. None of the above
- 12. Looking at the HR Diagram, which color of star is hotter in temperature?
 - A. Red
 - B. Yellow
 - C. White
 - D. Blue
- 13. Looking at the HR Diagram, which color of star is cooler in temperature?
 - A. Red
 - B. Yellow
 - C. Blue
 - D. White
- 14. According to the HR diagram above, what are the stars in the lower left region?
 - A. Main Sequence Stars
 - B. Supergiants
 - C. Giants
 - D. White Dwarfs
- 15. How are white dwarf stars different from supergiants?
 - A. White dwarfs are cooler and have higher luminosity than supergiants.
 - B. White dwarfs are cooler and have lower luminosity than supergiants.
 - C. White dwarfs are warmer and have higher luminosity than supergiants.
 - D. White dwarfs are warmer and have lower luminosity than supergiants.
- 16. Which of the following stars is a white dwarf?
 - A. Polaris B. Algol C.Procyon B D. Aldebaran

1.

Period:

HR Exit Ticket



Based on this diagram, how do the characteristics of Star 1 and Star 2 compare?

- F Star 1 is cooler and less bright than Star 2.
- G Star 1 is hotter and brighter than Star 2.
- H Star 1 is cooler and brighter than Star 2.
- J Star 1 is hotter and less bright than Star 2.



Which of these observations of Barnard's Star is most likely accurate?

- A Barnard's Star is less bright than the sun, has a surface temperature below 3,800 K, and is red.
- B Barnard's Star is less bright than the sun, has a surface temperature above 3,800 K, and is red.
- C Barnard's Star is brighter than the sun, has a surface temperature below 5,300 K, and is yellow.
- D Barnard's Star is brighter than the sun, has a surface temperature above 5,300 K, and is yellow.



Mob-Stars Student Handout

Directions: Below are some characteristics about some star suspects. These rogue stars have been leading a life of crime and hiding amongst stars of similar characteristics. Your mission, detectives, is to uncover all of the missing information based upon the clues given. From this information, you will be creating a scientific picture (HR diagram on Google Draw) exposing these hooligans for who they really are.



Code Name	Temperature	Luminosity	Size	Color	Group
Ralphie	Hotter			Blueish	Supergiant
Sonny B.				Yellow	Main Sequence
Benny Two-Toes	Cooler	Medium		Red	
Jake the Snake	Hotter	Dim			White Dwarf
Fat Charlie			Large	White	
Slim Jim			Medium	Red-Orange	
Suzie Q		Bright		Yellow	
Babyface Nelson		Medium		White	
Switchblade Sal	Medium	Dim			
Cuddles Malloy	Hotter	Bright		Blue	
Tony Bananas				Red	Main Sequence
The Butcher	Cooler		Large		

Check with your teacher before beginning to create your picture on Google Draw

Mob-Stars Answer Key

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Benny Two-Toes	Cooler	Medium	Medium	Red	Giants
Jake the Snake	Hotter	Dim	Small	White	White Dwarf
Fat Charlie	Hotter	Bright	Big	White	Supergiants
Slim Jim	Cooler	Medium	Medium	Red-Orange	Giants
Suzie Q	Medium	Bright	Large	Yellow	Supergiants
Babyface Nelson	Hotter	Medium	Medium	White	Main Sequence
Switchblade Sal	Medium	Dim	Small	Yellow	White Dwarf
Cuddles Malloy	Hotter	Bright	Large	Blue	Main Sequence
Tony Bananas	Cooler	Dim	Small	Red	Main Sequence
The Butcher	Cooler	Bright	Large	Red	Supergiants

Check with your teacher before beginning to create your picture on Google Draw



	Exceeds	Meets	Approaching
Characteristics Table	 All characteristics are filled in 40 pts 	 More than half of missing characteristics are filled in (17) 20 pts 	 Less than half of missing characteristics are filled in 10 pts
Diagram Axis	Both axis labeled10 pts	 One axis labeled 	 No labels given 0 pts
Title	Title Labeled5 pts		No title given0 pts
Stars plotted	 Your four stars are in the correct location 10 pts 	 At least two stars in the correct location 5 pts 	 Most stars are <u>not</u> in the correct place 3 pts
Stars colored	 Your four stars are colored correctly based on temperature 10 pts 	 At least two stars are colored correctly 5 pts 	 Most stars are <u>not</u> colored correctly 3 pts
Stars labeled	 All four of your stars are correctly named with their "mob-star name" 10 pts 	 At least of your two stars are correctly named. 5 pts 	 Most stars are not named correctly 3 pts
Star size	 All four stars are drawn the correct size relative to each other. 10 pts 	 At least two stars are sized correctly 5 pts 	 Most stars are <u>not</u> the correct size relative to each other. 3 pts
Responsibility Key	 Key is filled out on margin of template showing which "mob-stars" you were responsible for 5 pts 	 Key is partially filled out on margin of template 3 pts 	 Key is not given for your four "mob-stars" 0 pts

HR Dlagram Performance Assessment Rubric

