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| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Knowledge and Skills</b></p> <p>Within our solar system, the sun, moon, and earth have similarities and differences. They include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Size</li> <li>• Shape</li> <li>• Location</li> </ul> <p>Students will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Compare the similarities of the Sun, Moon, and Earth.</li> <li>• Contrast differences of the Sun, Moon, and Earth</li> </ul> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Resources</b></p> <p>Coloma Resources:</p> <p>Newbridge Big Book and Teacher's Guide</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Out in Space</li> <li>• Photo Card Set</li> </ul> |
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Instruction</b></p> <p><b>Focus Question:</b> How are the Sun, Moon, and Earth alike and different?</p> <p>Read the big book: Out in Space</p> <p>Follow suggestions in teacher's guide.</p> <p>Make a mobile of the Sun, Moon, and Earth showing how they are alike and different.</p>  | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Assessment</b></p> <p>None</p>  |

**Teacher Notes:****Comparing and contrasting our planet and the sun to other planets and star systems.**

Students' understanding of the solar system, galaxy and universe begins with understanding our sun, earth, and moon system. In the earliest grades, children can be introduced to the concepts that the earth is a planet, the sun is a star and the earth orbits the sun. Research with children tells us that the ideas that our sun is a star and that the earth orbits the sun are difficult ideas for students to understand.

Observations of the moon may include the identification and prediction of moon phases. These observations provide first hand experiences for students to which they can tie their subsequent learning. Repeated in the middle school years, these same observations might be extended by telescopes or binoculars and include other space objects such as other planets and their satellites, stars, constellations, and comets.