

space CIRCLE TIME

5
LESSONS

circle time plans | songs | posters | activities | printables



Lavinia Pop

Space

PRESCHOOL CIRCLE TIME

5 lesson plans | songs | posters | activities | printables



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Lavinia

lavinia@kinder-resources.com

ILLUSTRATIONS Kari Bolt, Erin Colleen Design, Little Red, Whimsy Clips, PartyHead Graphics, Ramona Majdis, Zip-a-Dee-doo-dah-Designs, Bunny on a Cloud, Krista Wallden - Creative Clips, Creating4 the Classroom, Rainbow Sprinkle Studio - Sasha Mitten, First Class Clipart, ClipArtisan, Muggy Studio

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Introduction

The Space Preschool Circle Time Plan is designed to introduce young learners to the wonder and excitement of outer space. Over five engaging days, children will explore fascinating space themes through songs, stories, discussions, and hands-on activities that spark curiosity and imagination. From gazing at the moon and stars to learning about planets, rockets, astronauts, and our very own Earth, each day invites children to discover what makes space so special. Through guided conversations, experiments, crafts, and movement, children will build early science knowledge while developing important skills in language, fine motor coordination, and cooperative play. This interactive, play-based plan encourages preschoolers to ask questions, observe the world above them, and begin to understand their place in the universe. Whether they're counting craters, launching rockets, or singing about the planets, your little learners will be over the moon with excitement!

What's Included:

1. Detailed Circle Time plans

Each day of the week is planned with a structured circle time agenda that includes:

- *Introduction:* A brief and captivating introduction to the daily theme, setting the stage for the day's activities.
- *Song:* A fun and educational song related to the daily theme, designed to engage children and reinforce learning through music and movement.
- *Read aloud and discussion:* A carefully selected picture book paired with thought-provoking discussion questions to enhance comprehension and encourage interaction.
- *Activities:* Creative and hands-on activities that complement the day's theme, fostering gross and fine motor skills, creativity, and critical thinking.

2. Posters and props

Enhance Circle Time with visual and tactile aids:

- *Posters:* Vibrant posters featuring the lyrics and illustrations for each daily song, making it easy for children to follow along and participate. The product also includes non-fiction posters, providing educational content alongside the fun.
- *Props:* Printable props related to each song and theme help bring the songs and stories to life and engage children in interactive play.

3. Printables for all activities:

Not all days include activities that require printables. However, optional printables are included for each day if you would like to use them. They include:

- Group activity printables
- Worksheets
- Craft templates

Why You'll Love This Resource:

- **Comprehensive and convenient learning:** A complete week of themed learning activities and resources in one packet.
- **Easy to use:** Detailed plans, printables, and props make it straightforward to create a dynamic and engaging circle time experience.
- **Educational and entertaining:** Each component is designed to be both educational and fun, keeping children excited and involved.

Happy Teaching :)

Space

	Objective	Read Aloud	Activity
Day 1	What Is Space? Children will explore the concept of space and begin to identify objects found in outer space, such as stars, the moon, and planets.	Book: "There's No Place Like Space!" by Tish Rabe Discussion: Things the Cat in the Hat taught about space. Planets and how they are different. Which planet kids would like to visit.	Space Sensory Bin Children explore a space sensory bin using their hands or scoops. Materials: Large bin, black beans or dyed black rice, toy planets, stars, rockets, astronaut figures, scoops or spoons.
Day 2	The Moon and Stars Children will explore the moon and stars, learning that the moon is made of rock with craters and changes shape, and that stars are faraway balls of hot gas that shine in the night sky.	Book: "Papa, Please Get the Moon for Me" by Eric Carle Discussion: How the moon changed shape. The moon growing and shrinking.	Moon Crater Experiment Children drop rocks or balls into a tray of flour to create craters and observe what happens. Materials: Tray, flour, small rocks (playdough, balls, marbles).
Day 3	Planets Children will identify Earth as one of several planets in the solar system and name basic characteristics of other planets.	Book: "National Geographic Kids: Planets" by Elizabeth Carney Discussion: Planet sizes, colors, and features.	Marbled Planets Craft Children swirl food coloring into shaving cream and press paper to make marbled planets. Materials: Shaving cream, food coloring, tray, stick white cardstock, ruler.
Day 4	Astronauts and Rockets Children will understand that astronauts travel to space in rockets and describe some tools and equipment they use.	Book: "Roaring Rockets" by Tony Mitton Discussion: What rockets do. Who rides in them. How astronauts get ready to go to space.	Straw Rocket Launch Children decorate paper rockets, attach a straw, and launch them by blowing through a second straw. Materials: Paper rocket templates, crayons, scissors, tape, large straw, thin straw.
Day 5	Earth in Space Children will describe Earth as a planet in space and explain why it is special as our home.	Book: "Me and My Place in Space" by Joan Sweeney Discussion: Where Earth is in space. Why Earth is special. How it compares to other planets.	Solar System Mobile Craft Children color, cut, and hang planets on a plate to make a solar system mobile. Materials: Solar System printable, crayons, scissors, hole punch, yarn or string, tape, paper plate.

Space

Day 2: The Moon and Stars

Children will explore the moon and stars, learning that the moon is made of rock with craters and changes shape, and that stars are faraway balls of hot gas that shine in the night sky.

Introduction

"Today, we're learning all about the moon! Did you know the moon is made of rock and has no air or water? That's why astronauts need special suits to walk on it! If you look closely, you can see light and dark spots on the moon. Those are called craters, and they're made when space rocks crash into the moon's surface! The moon also looks different on different nights; sometimes it's a full circle, and other times it's just a little slice. The moon is always changing, and it helps light up our night sky. Let's take a closer look!"

Song

"Zoom Through Space" (Tune: "Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star") Verse 1

Prop: Moon and Star

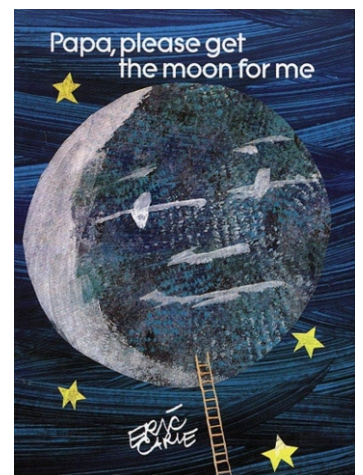


Read Aloud & Discussion

Book: "Papa, Please Get the Moon for Me" by Eric Carle

Before Reading: "Have you ever seen the moon in the sky? What shape was it? Do you think the moon is close or far away? What do you think would happen if you tried to reach it?"

After Reading: "What did Monica want her papa to do? What happened to the moon in the story? Did it stay the same or change? What did you learn about how the moon can grow and shrink?" Invite children to describe the moon's phases and how it looked in the pictures.



Activity

Moon Crater Experiment

Materials: Tray, flour, small rocks (playdough or heavy balls and marbles also work), spoon or measuring cup.

Instructions: Pour flour into a tray to create the moon's surface. Invite children to drop small rocks or balls from different heights into the tray to create craters. Encourage them to observe what happens when different sizes or weights are dropped.

Extension: Add toy astronauts or mini flags to the tray. Encourage children to imagine landing on the moon and describe what they see or feel. Take photos of the crater patterns and compare them.



Space

Circle Time Song Posters and Props

This section includes all song posters and props.

- Zoom Through Space
 - complete song poster
 - verse song poster
 - moon and star prop
 - planets prop
 - astronaut and rocket prop
 - Earth prop




1 Zoom Through Space
Tune: Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star

Moon up high and stars so bright,
Shining softly every night.
Sometimes round and sometimes thin,
The moon keeps changing shape at night!
Moon up high and stars so bright,
Shining softly every night.




2 Zoom Through Space
Tune: Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star

Mercury's hot, and Venus shines,
Earth has trees and oceans fine.
Mars is red with rocks and dust,
Jupiter's big, much more than us!
Saturn's rings are such a sight,
Uranus, Neptune, far from light!



3 Zoom Through Space
Tune: Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star

Astronauts wear suits so white,
Zooming in a rocket flight!
Floating where there is no air,
Doing science way up there.
5, 4, 3, 2, 1: let's go!
Off we fly with a fiery glow!



4 Zoom Through Space
Tune: Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star

Earth is home, it's green and blue,
With air to breathe and sunshine too.
We live here and play all day,
And dream of space so far away.
Earth is home, it's green and blue,
With air to breathe and sunshine too.



Zoom Through Space
Tune: Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star

Moon up high and stars so bright,
Shining softly every night.
Sometimes round and sometimes thin,
The moon keeps changing shape at night!
Moon up high and stars so bright,
Shining softly every night.

Mercury's hot, and Venus shines,
Earth has trees and oceans fine.
Mars is red with rocks and dust,
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Zoom Through Space

sung to *Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star*

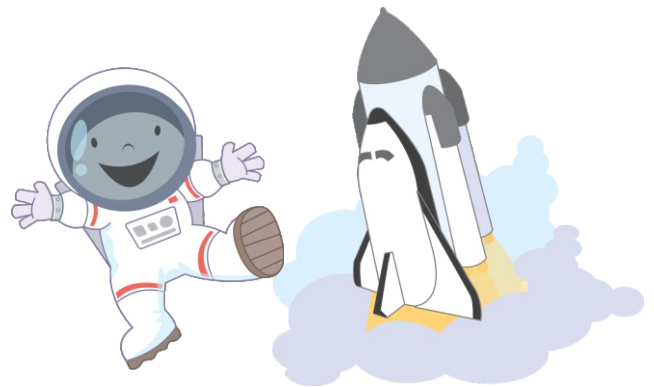
Moon up high and stars so bright,
Shining softly every night.
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The moon keeps changing shape at night!
Moon up high and stars so bright,
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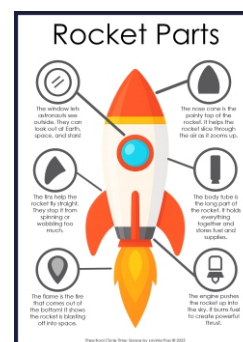
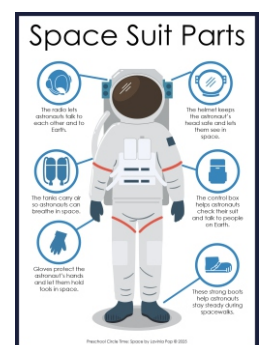
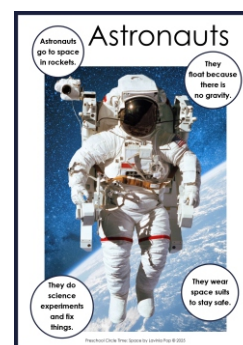
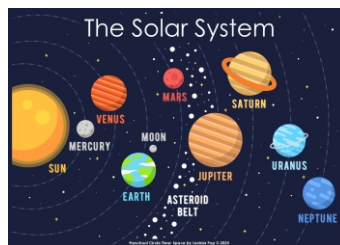
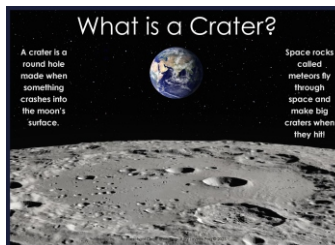
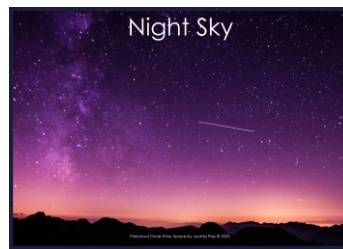


Space

Classroom Posters

This section includes posters you might like to display in your classroom.

- Night Sky
- What is Space?
- Thing We See in Space
- The Moon
- What is a Crater?
- Phases of the Moon
- Stars in the Sky
- The Solar System
- Planet Posters:
 - Venus
 - Mercury
 - Earth
 - Mars
 - Jupiter
 - Saturn
 - Uranus
 - Neptune
- Rocket Launch
- Astronauts
- Space Suit Parts
- Rocket Parts
- We Live in Planet Earth



What Is Space?

Space is
the place
beyond
our Earth.
It's where
we find
the moon,
planets,
stars, and
even
astronauts.



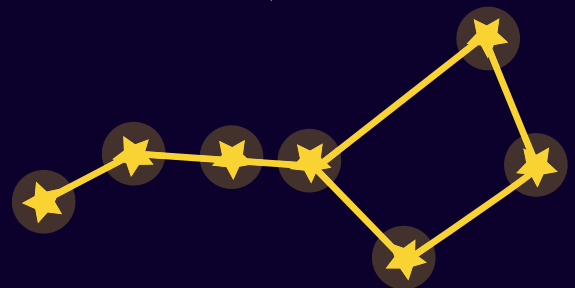
Stars in the Sky

- Stars are big balls of hot gas.

- They are far, far away in space.

- Stars shine and twinkle in the night sky.

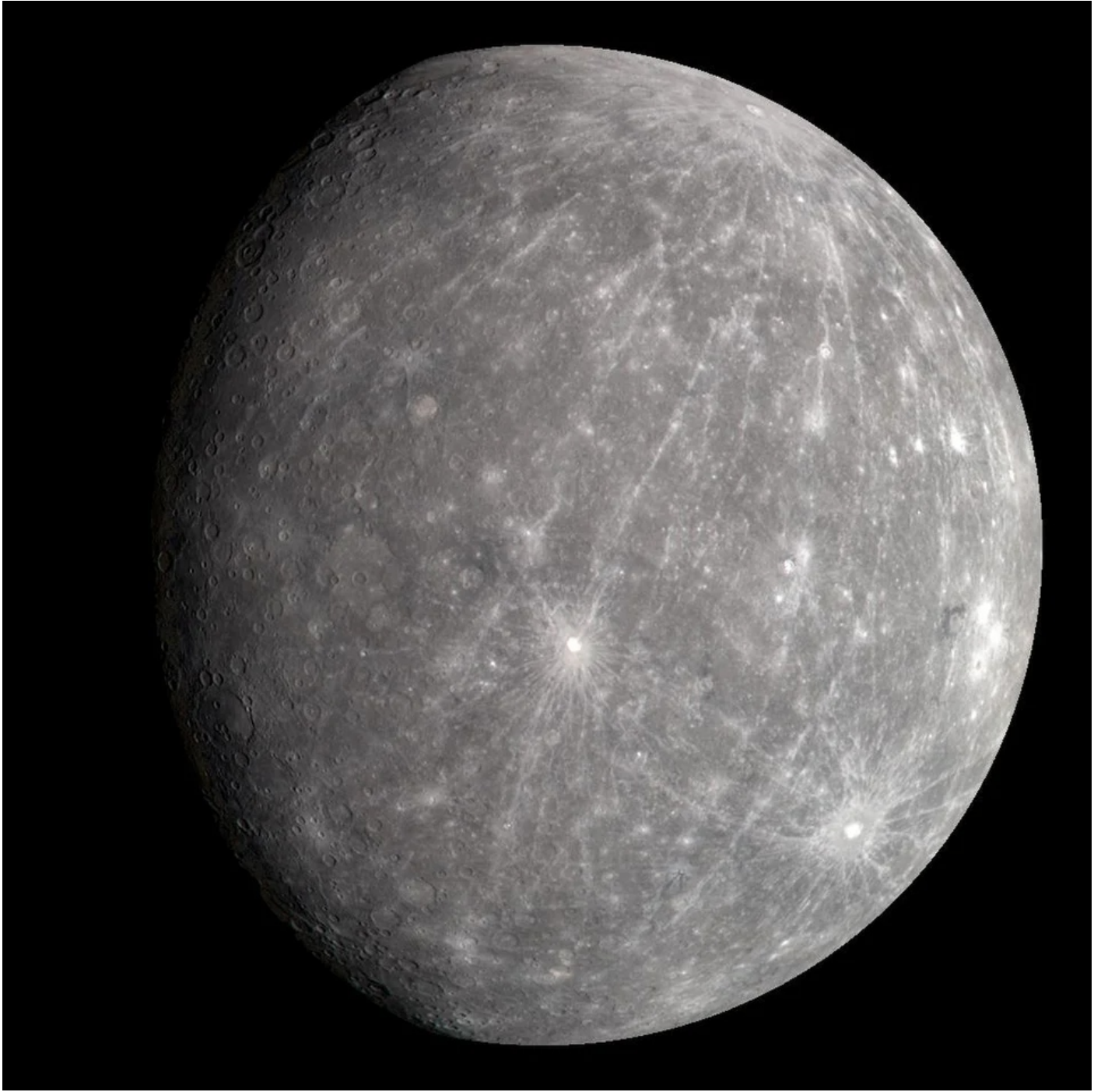
- Some stars make shapes called constellations.



Our sun is a star too. It looks big because it's close to Earth!

The Solar System





Mercury – 1st Planet from the Sun

- Mercury is the closest planet to the sun.
- It is very, very hot during the day and freezing cold at night!
- Mercury is small and rocky, and it has lots of craters from space rocks.
- It's just a little bigger than Earth's Moon!
- There is no air or water on Mercury.

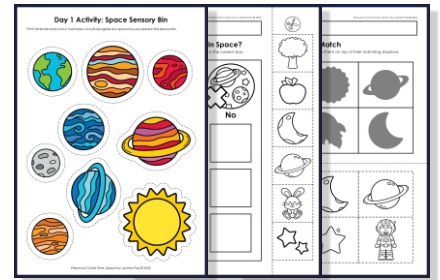
Space

Activities & Worksheets

This section includes all the necessary lesson printables, along with some additional activities and worksheets. You can use these pages as outlined in the lesson plan or on different days, depending on your needs.

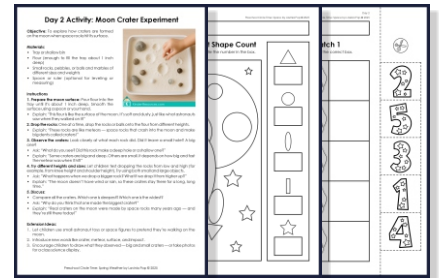
Day 1: What Is Space?

- **Lesson Activity:** Space Sensory Bin
- *Additional Activity:* Space and Not Space Sorting
- *Additional Activity:* Space Shadow Match



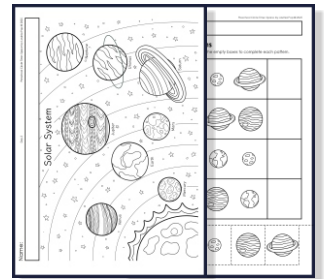
Day 2: The Moon and Stars

- **Lesson Activity:** Moon Carter Experiment Instructions
- *Additional Activity:* Moon and Rocket Shape Count
- *Additional Activity:* Stars Number Match (2)



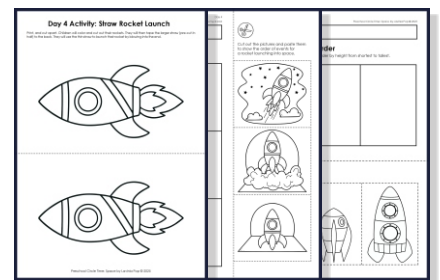
Day 3: Planets

- *Additional Activity:* Solar System Coloring Page
- *Additional Activity:* AB Planet Patterns



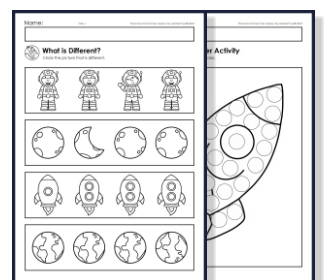
Day 4: Astronauts and Rockets

- **Lesson Activity:** Straw Rocket Launch
- *Additional Activity:* Rocket Launch Sequence
- *Additional Activity:* Rocket Height Order



Day 5: Earth in Space

- *Additional Activity:* What is Different?
- *Additional Activity:* Space Dot Marker Pages (3)



Day 2 Activity: Moon Crater Experiment

Objective: To explore how craters are formed on the moon when space rocks hit its surface.

Materials:

- Tray or shallow bin
- Flour (enough to fill the tray about 1 inch deep)
- Small rocks, pebbles, or balls and marbles of different sizes and weights
- Spoon or ruler (optional for leveling or measuring)

Instructions

1. Prepare the moon surface: Pour flour into the tray until it's about 1 inch deep. Smooth the surface using a spoon or your hand.

- *Explain:* "This flour is like the surface of the moon. It's soft and dusty, just like what astronauts saw when they walked on it!"

2. Drop the rocks: One at a time, drop the rocks or balls onto the flour from different heights.

- *Explain:* "These rocks are like meteors — space rocks that crash into the moon and make big dents called craters!"

3. Observe the craters: Look closely at what each rock did. Did it leave a small hole? A big one?

- *Ask:* "What do you see? Did this rock make a deep hole or a shallow one?"
- *Explain:* "Some craters are big and deep. Others are small. It depends on how big and fast the meteor was when it hit!"

4. Try different heights and sizes: Let children test dropping the rocks from low and high (for example, from knee height and shoulder height). Try using both small and large objects.

- *Ask:* "What happens when we drop a bigger rock? What if we drop it from higher up?"
- *Explain:* "The moon doesn't have wind or rain, so these craters stay there for a long, long time."

5. Discuss:

- Compare all the craters. Which one is deepest? Which one is the widest?
- *Ask:* "Why do you think that one made the biggest crater?"
- *Explain:* "Real craters on the moon were made by space rocks many years ago — and they're still there today!"

Extension Ideas:

1. Let children use small astronaut toys or space figures to pretend they're walking on the moon.
2. Introduce new words like crater, meteor, surface, and impact.
3. Encourage children to draw what they observed — big and small craters — or take photos for a class science display.



Name:

Day 2

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Moon & Rocket Shape Count

Count each shape and write the number in the box.

