Objective

By the end of this lesson, the student will have a basic understanding of space and its components.

Materials and Prep

- Blank paper
- Coloring pencils or crayons
- Scissors
- Tape
- Access to a computer or tablet

No prior knowledge is required for this lesson.

Activities

- Create a Solar System Mobile: Have the student draw and color the planets on separate pieces of paper. Cut them out and attach string to each planet. Hang the planets from a hanger or a stick using the strings. Hang the mobile in their room to display their solar system.
- Watch a Space Video: Find a short educational video about space suitable for young children. Watch it together and discuss what they learned.
- Design an Alien: Encourage the student to use their imagination and draw their own alien. Discuss what features the alien might have and what planet it could come from.
- Build a Rocket Ship: Using cardboard, help the student create a simple rocket ship. Cut out a shape for the body of the rocket and wings. Decorate it with colors and patterns. Once it's complete, they can pretend to fly to space!
- Stargazing: On a clear night, take the student outside to observe the stars. Point out different constellations and discuss their names and shapes.

Talking Points

- "Space is a vast area that includes everything in it, like planets, stars, and galaxies."
- "The Sun is a star that gives us light and heat. It is the closest star to us."
- "There are eight planets in our solar system: Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune."
- "Each planet has its own unique characteristics. For example, Earth has water and is the only planet known to have life."
- "Astronauts are people who travel to space in special vehicles called rockets. They explore and conduct experiments in space."
- "Stars are huge balls of hot gas that produce their own light. They can be different colors and sizes."
- "Constellations are groups of stars that form patterns. They often have names and can help us navigate the night sky."