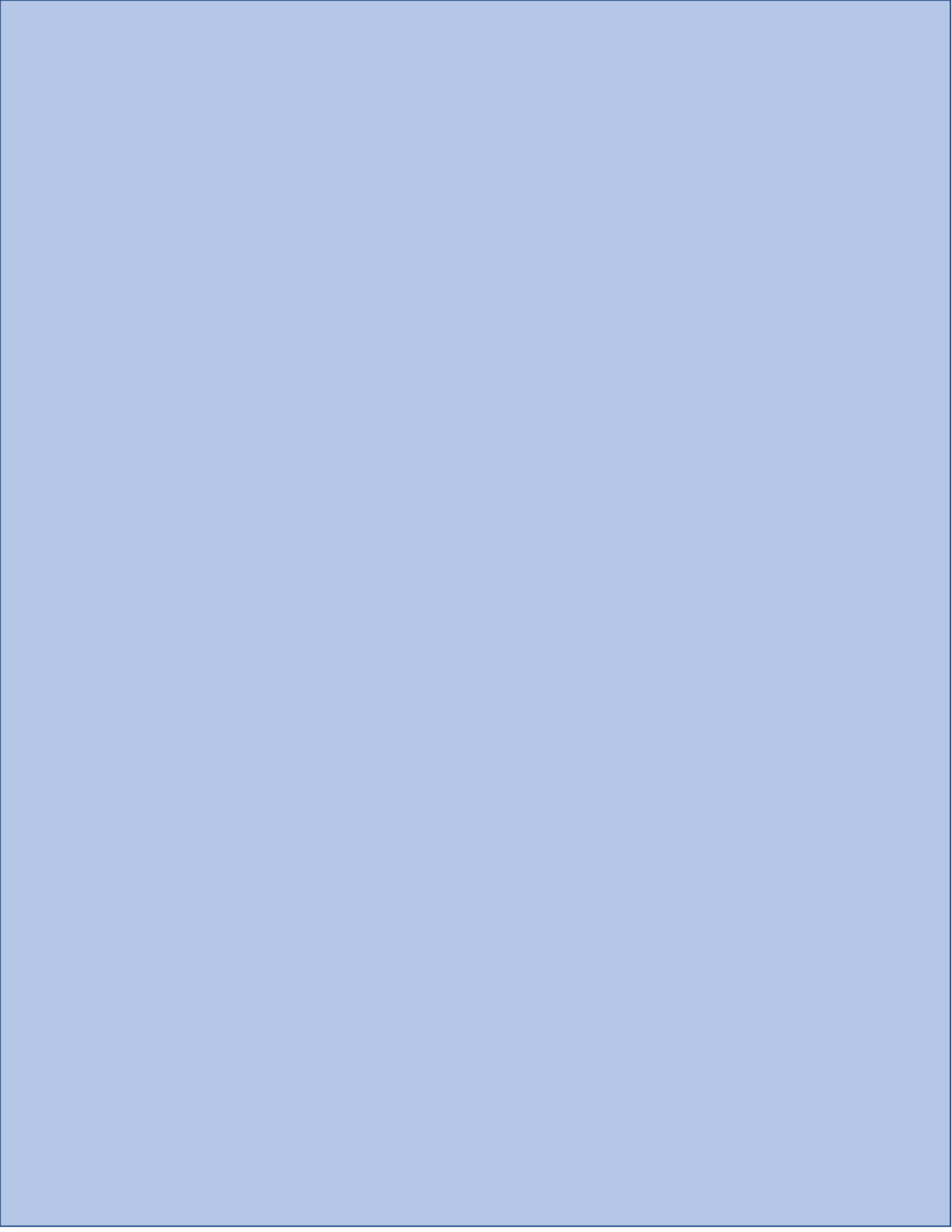
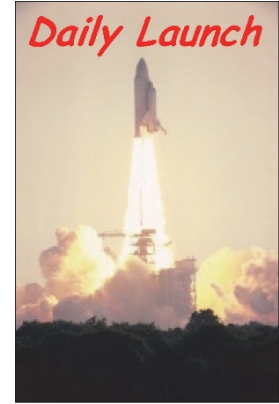


Galaxy

Days 11-12



Daily Launch Day 11



Do Now: Poem Preview

The poem below, "Stars," is by Langston Hughes, a famous African American poet of the early 20th century. This poem was published in 1921.¹ Read the poem several times. Then read it to yourself aloud softly. Finally, answer the questions below.

"Stars" by Langston Hughes

O, sweep of stars over Harlem streets,
 O, little breath of oblivion* that is night.
 A city building
 To a mother's song.
 A city dreaming
 To a lullaby.
 Reach up your hand, dark boy, and take a star.
 Out of the little breath of oblivion
 That is night,
 Take just
 One star.

**Oblivion* (oh-BLIV-ee-un) means forgetfulness.

1. What is the **setting** of this poem (when and where it takes place)? How do we know?

2. Use several words to describe the **mood** or feeling the poem gives you.

3. Why do you think the poet says, "Reach up your hand, dark boy, and take a star"?
 What might he mean by this?

¹Scott Horton, in "Browsings: The Harper's Blog," 1/21/2008 <https://harpers.org/blog/2008/01/hughes-stars/>



Daily Launch Day 12

Do Now: Picture the Night Sky

Instructions. Take out your copy of “Night Wonders.” Re-read a few stanzas (sections) and make a mental picture based on what you read. Then, use the drawing supplies provided by your teacher and the black construction paper to create a picture that represents one or more stanzas from the poem—a picture of what you might see if you traveled through space!





From *Night Wonders*

by Jane Ann Peddicord*

Beside a dark and quiet sea
beneath a starlit canopy
I shone my light upon a star
and wondered, *What is out that far?* [...]



Photo: Sindre Strøm

Ascending high across the sky
as if inviting me to fly,
the light escaped the Earth's embrace
and soared away through open space.

I wished that night with all my might
that I might stow aboard that flight
and sail upon the wings of light
across the sparkling winds of night. [...]



Photo: nvmixArt

I passed the planets one by one
revolving round the glowing Sun,
then sped through empty space so far
our Sun looked like a distant star...

Like one of many grains of sand
sprinkled on a velvet band,
each turning nighttime into day
and lighting up the Milky Way.



Photo: NASA

I flew upon my steady beam
to lands more distant than a dream,
where stars are born, and live, and die,
in diamond veils called nebulae. [...]

*Excerpts from *Night Wonders*, © 2005 by Jane Ann Peddicord. Published by Charlesbridge.

My light steed never ever swerved,
 but outer space itself is curved.
 So like a bubble in a bath,
 I found myself drawn round a path... [...]



Photo: NASA

Not far beyond a glowing sun
 and very near where I'd begun,
 I recognized a silver face
 That overlooks a special place...

One graced by water, wind, and air,
 to me it never looked so fair—
 a bright oasis in the night
 inviting me to end my flight.



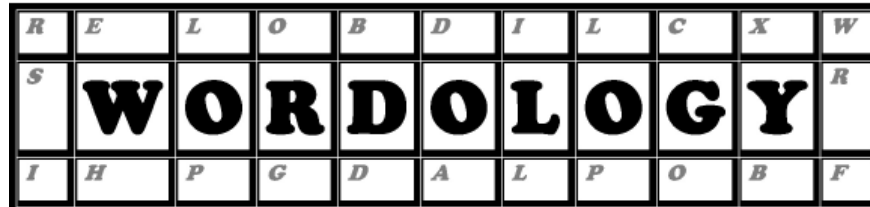
Photo: NIST

Sailing back to Earth once more
 and landing on my sandy shore,
 I searched the sky for sparks of light
 and knew I'd wonder back one night.



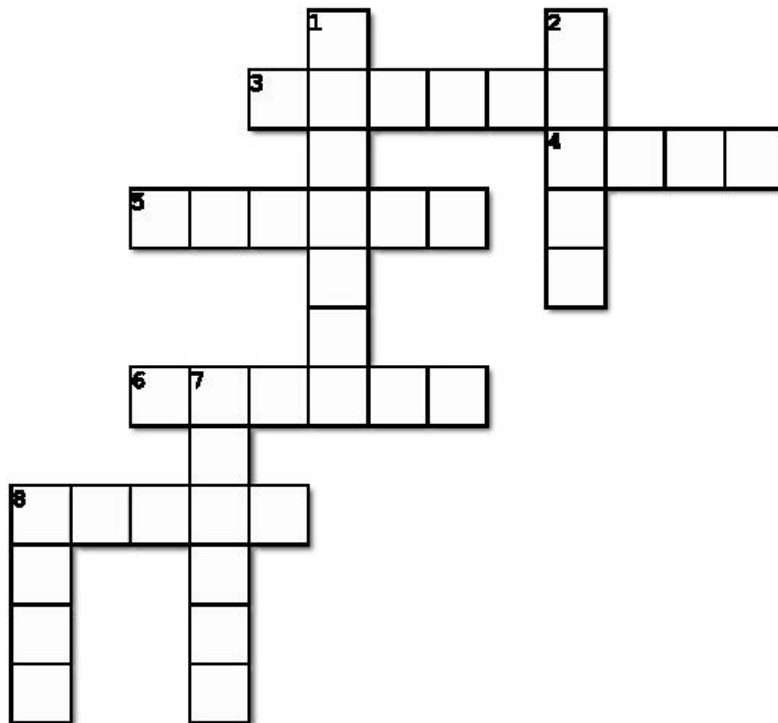
Name _____ Date _____

Galaxy Days 11 and 12



Wordology Activity #1: Crossword Puzzle

Instructions: Choose words from the Word Bank to complete this puzzle. The Clues box will help you decide which words fit in which spaces.



Word Bank

canopy
ascend
soar
stow
revolve
nebula
steed
swerve
oasis

Created using the Crossword Maker on TheTeachersCorner.net

Clues

Across

3. a cloud of space dust
4. to fly
5. an awning or covering
6. to rise up
8. an animal that you ride on

Down

1. to circle around
2. a place of refreshment
7. to turn aside
8. to put away or hide



Name _____ Date _____

Galaxy Days 11 and 12

R	E	L	O	B	D	I	L	C	X	W
S	W	O	R	D	O	L	O	G	Y	R
I	H	P	G	D	A	L	P	O	B	F

Wordology Activity #2: Poetry Writing

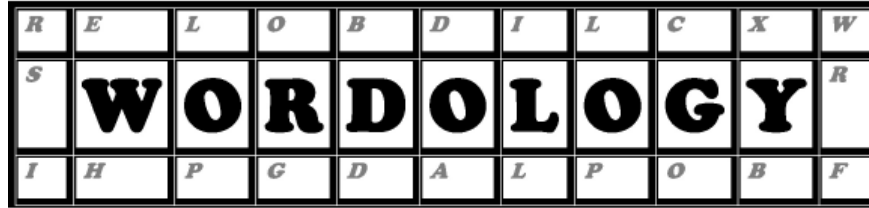
Instructions: Using at least four of the words in the Word Bank, write a poem about an imaginary trip into space. (Your poem does not have to rhyme.) Refer back to “Night Wonders” if you need inspiration.

Title of your poem: _____

Word Bank

canopy	ascend	soar	stow	revolve
nebula	steed	swerve	oasis	





Wordology Activity #3: Synonym Hunt

Instructions: A **synonym** is a word that means the same or almost the same as another word. **Rewrite** each sentence without changing its meaning. Choose a synonym from the Word Bank to replace the underlined word or phrase in each sentence.

1. What a great vacation plan—I wish I could hide myself in your suitcase and come along!

2. Jet fuel gives rockets the power to go up high into space.

3. All of the planets circle around the Sun at different rates.

4. Desert travelers found a safe place beside a well where they could rest and refresh themselves.

5. The dust cloud showed up as a bright spot far away in space.

6. You will need a fast horse to win that race.

7. Marta had to sharply turn her bike to avoid hitting the potholes in the street.

8. The party was outdoors so we put up a tent covering in case of rain.

9. I can't wait to see my kite fly way up in the sky!

Word Bank

canopy	ascend	soar	stow	revolve
nebula	steed	swerve	oasis	



Name _____ Date _____

Galaxy Days 11 and 12

R	E	L	O	B	D	I	L	C	X	W
S	W	O	R	D	O	L	O	G	Y	R
I	H	P	G	D	A	L	P	O	B	F

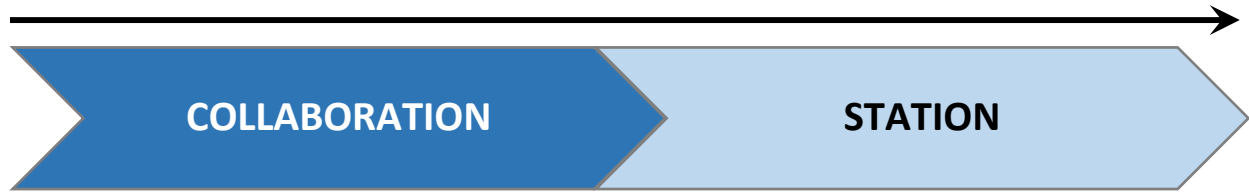
Composing Meaningful Sentences

If you complete your chosen Wordology activity, take the remaining time at this station to write Meaningful Sentences using the vocabulary words listed below. (Remember, a Meaningful Sentence is a sentence that shows that you know what the word means!) Read and discuss your sentences with your teammates.

Word Bank

canopy	ascend	soar	stow	revolve
nebula	steed	swerve	oasis	





Collaborations Station: Prose Summary

Instructions: Partner read the **first** page of “Night Wonders,” taking turns reading the stanzas. Then work with your partner to summarize in one prose (= regular language) sentence what is happening in each stanza. Write your answers in the chart below. (The first stanza has been done for you as an example.)

<p>Stanza 1: The writer is standing on the beach looking up at the stars and wondering about space.</p>
<p>Stanza 2: _____ _____</p>
<p>Stanza 3: _____ _____</p>
<p>Stanza 4: _____ _____</p>
<p>Stanza 5: _____ _____</p>
<p>Stanza 6: _____ _____</p>



Name _____ Date _____

Galaxy Days 11 and 12



Media Madness

Poetry Read-Aloud and Recording

Instructions: Listen to the audio recording from the poem “Night Wonders” by Jane Ann Peddicord on your device (tablet or laptop). As you listen, read along on your own copy. (Notice the pictures too.)

Then, record yourself reading several stanzas (sections) of the poem. You can take a few tries to get it sounding right.

Listen to your recording, and comment on your reading using the following prompts:

1. How is your speed as you read the poem?
 - Too fast
 - Too slow
 - About right
2. Is your reading choppy or smooth?
 - Very choppy
 - A little choppy
 - Mostly smooth
3. Can you hear a rhythm in the lines from your recording?
 - Yes, I hear the rhythm
 - No, not really
4. Does your version communicate the feeling that the poem tries to express?
 - Yes
 - A little bit
 - Not really

If you want, make another recording and see if it sounds better to you!



