

**Project FOCUS  
Best Lessons  
FIRST GRADE**

**Title of Lesson:** Paper Rocket Launching

**Theme:** Earth/Space Science

**Unit Number:**            **Unit Title:**

**Performance Standard(s) Covered (enter code):**

S1CS1

S1CS3

S1CS4

**Enduring Standards (objectives of activity):**

**Habits of Mind**

- Asks questions
- Uses numbers to quantify
- Works in a group
- Uses tools to measure and view
- Looks at how parts of things are needed
- Describes and compares using physical attributes
- Observes using senses
- Draws and describes observations

**Content (key terms and topics covered):**

Space travel

**Learning Activity (Description in Steps)**

**Abstract(limit 100 characters):** This experiment teaches students that a rocket is required for outer space travel.

**Details:** 1. Begin by asking the students questions such as:

- How do we have pictures from outer space?
- How do astronauts travel in outer space?
- Why do we need a rocket to travel in space?

2. Show them the pictures or book of the different types of rockets and point out they need a device to launch them to outer space because they cannot take off on their own.

3. Give each student a clean white piece of paper.

4. Sit in front of the students and show the students how to fold their rockets using your own piece of paper. At certain folds, they cannot see how to do it so help will be needed.

5. After folding, allow them to color their rockets any colors they want. I encouraged putting windows and "USA" logos on them.

6. Cut the slits and use tape as it states in the website. I did not use the tape, but it may be more efficient.

7. I demonstrated with my pre-made rocket how to shoot them using the rubber band before allowing any student try. I put them in a line and helped each student launch their rocket by using the rubber

**band. I made a little competition out of it by seeing who could shoot their rockets further. Instructions for this are also at the website.**

**Materials Needed (Type and Quantity):**

**One sheet of paper for each student**

**Coloring utensils**

**A couple of rubber bands**

**Pictures of real rockets and spaceships or a book**

**1 pair of scissors**

**Scotch tape**

**Notes and Tips (suggested changes, alternative methods, cautions):**

**It is best to take the students out in the hallway so there is enough room. Be sure you have made a model paper rocket.**

**Sources/References:**

**1) <http://www.instructables.com/id/SN1DWAEF5HVHR2G/?comments=all>**

**2)**

**3)**