

Lesson Plan

Extraterrestrial Exploration

Book: *Space Exploration*

Series: Space

Level: Beacon

Objective

To help students practice paraphrasing details from a text and summarizing the main points of a collaborative conversation.

Supplies

- *Space Exploration* book
- Whiteboard
- Pencils and paper

Before the Activity

Read through the *Space Exploration* book, or assign it to students to read on their own. Write the following questions on the whiteboard:

- Which example of space exploration did you find the most fascinating? Why?
- In what year did that space exploration take place?
- What was one technology involved in that exploration?

Activity

The *Space Exploration* book describes the history of space exploration and possible developments for the future. Divide the students into pairs. Partners should take turns answering the questions on the whiteboard. Give students several minutes to talk. Then ask each student to write a one-paragraph summary of what his or her partner talked about. This summary should answer the four questions listed below. Write these questions on the whiteboard, too:

- What example of space exploration did your partner describe?
- Why did your partner think that example was fascinating?
- In what year did that space exploration take place?
- What was one technology involved in that exploration?

Evaluation

Collect the summaries and give students 1 point for each question they answered, for up to 4 points total.

Standards

This lesson may be used to address the Common Core State Standards' reading standards for informational text, grades 4 and 5 (RI 4.1, 5.1), and speaking and listening standards, grades 4 and 5 (SL 4.1, 5.1).