

Dear Teacher,

Escape From Planet Earth lands in theaters nationwide on February 14, 2013. In anticipation of this amazing 3D animated family film, The Weinstein Company and curriculum specialist Young Minds Inspired (YMI) offer you these fun, National and Common Core standards-based, science and language arts lessons for students in grades 2 to 5.

Escape From Planet Earth follows the daring adventures of astronaut Scorch Supernova who finds himself in deep trouble when he responds to an SOS from a dangerous far-off planet — Earth! Who comes to the rescue? His nerdy brother Gary, of course. Family and brotherhood prevail!

The fun and engaging activities build on the movie's space setting, memorable characters, and universal themes of family, loyalty, and doing the right thing. Each reproducible activity includes a family connection for students to complete at home. Although the materials are protected by copyright, you may make as many copies as needed for educational purposes.

Sincerely,



Dr. Dominic Kinsley
Editor in Chief
Young Minds Inspired



ESCAPE FROM PLANET EARTH

TARGET AUDIENCE

This program is designed for elementary school students in grades 2 to 5 as part of their science and language arts curriculum.

PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

- To strengthen students' knowledge of Earth and spark class discussion
- To build science and space-related vocabulary and concepts
- To promote critical thinking by encouraging students to make connections between the movie's universal themes and their own experiences
- To engage students through creative writing exercises

PROGRAM COMPONENTS

- This teacher's guide
- Three reproducible student activity sheets
- Comment online at www.ymiclassroom.com/escape-from-planet-earth.html

ABOUT *ESCAPE FROM PLANET EARTH*

This 3D animated family comedy catapults moviegoers to planet Baab where astronaut Scorch Supernova (Brendan Fraser) is a national hero to the blue alien population. A master of daring rescues, Scorch pulls off astonishing feats with the quiet aid of his nerdy, by-the-rules brother, Gary (Rob Corddry), head of mission control at BASA. When BASA's no-nonsense chief Lena (Jessica Alba) informs the brothers of an SOS from a notoriously dangerous planet, Scorch rejects Gary's warnings and bounds off for yet another exciting mission. When Scorch needs rescuing from the evil General Shanker (James Gandolfini), it's brother Gary who steps up to save Scorch, Gary's beloved wife Kira (Sarah Jessica Parker), and their adventure-hungry son Kip! Shanker is no match for family and brotherhood.

HOW TO USE THIS PROGRAM

Review the program materials, schedule the activities to suit your time frame, and give students a photocopy of each activity sheet. Encourage students to take the activities home, which each include a family activity.

NATIONAL EDUCATION STANDARDS

This program aligns with Common Core Standards for English Language Arts and Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science and Technical Subjects K-5. For more details, visit www.ymiclassroom.com/escape-from-planet-earth.html.

ACTIVITY ONE WELCOME, EARTHLINGS!

Challenge your students to test their knowledge about Earth's geography, history, and life forms with this multiple-choice quiz. After completing the quiz, students can use print and digital materials to research the correct answers. Discuss the findings as a class.

Answers:

1. A (water); 2. C (6.9 billion); 3. B (third); 4. C (365 days); 5. B (4.5 billion years old); 6. B (7,000); 7. B (Earth is the only planet with known life.); 8. A (29.5 days)

ACTIVITY TWO OUT-OF-THIS-WORLD CROSSWORD

In the first part of this activity, students are provided with a fun way to develop their science vocabulary as they use clues to solve a space-related crossword puzzle. Then, the second part of the activity will challenge them to use some of the terms in a writing extension that taps into their creativity and imagination as they create their own out-of-this-world escape situation.

Answers:

Across

3. Mercury
6. Saturn
7. comet
9. astronaut
11. solar system
13. asteroids
14. Pluto

Down

1. Jupiter
2. supernova
4. galaxy
5. Kuiper Belt
8. Mars
10. planet
12. sun

ACTIVITY THREE SHOW ME!

In this activity, students are given different scenarios from the movie and will choose one to illustrate how the situation connects to their own lives. Afterwards, break students into small groups to present their ideas. At home, students can discuss their drawings and talk to their family members about their own experiences that relate to the scenarios, helping them understand how relevant movie themes can be to real life, regardless of age. *Answers will vary.*

RESOURCES

www.escapeearthmovie.com
<http://science.nationalgeographic.com/science/space/solar-system>
<http://science.nationalgeographic.com/science/space/solar-system/earth.html>
<http://solarsystem.nasa.gov/kids/index.cfm>
<http://spaceplace.nasa.gov>
www.ymiclassroom.com to download more free programs

ACTIVITY ONE

WELCOME, EARTHLINGS

In *Escape From Planet Earth*, the blue alien residents of the planet Baab think daring astronaut Scorch Supernova is a national hero. Scorch has accomplished some amazing missions thanks to his quiet, cautious brother, Gary, who heads mission control at the space agency BASA. But when Scorch responds to an SOS from a notoriously dangerous planet (Earth), he needs all the help he can get!

Earth may be a mystery to Scorch Supernova, Gary, and other planet Baab inhabitants, but is it a mystery to you? Test your knowledge of Earth to help Baabian scientists sort out fact from fiction.

- 1. What makes up nearly 70 percent of Earth's surface?**
A. water B. land C. volcanoes
- 2. About how many people call Earth home?**
A. 690,000 B. 69 million C. 6.9 billion
- 3. Earth is the _____ planet from the sun.**
A. second B. third C. fifth
- 4. It takes Earth nearly _____ days to circle the sun.**
A. 30 days B. 180 days C. 365 days
- 5. About how old do scientists think Earth is?**
A. 4.5 million years old
B. 4.5 billion years old
C. 4.5 trillion years old
- 6. There are about _____ languages spoken on Earth.**
A. 700 B. 7,000 C. 7 million
- 7. How is Earth different from the other planets in our solar system?**
A. Earth is the only planet that circles the sun.
B. Earth is the only planet in which scientists have found life.
C. Earth is the largest planet.
- 8. How many days does it take the moon to circle Earth?**
A. 29.5 days
B. 180 days
C. 365 days

EARTH: HOME SWEET HOME

Imagine that Gary's son, Kip, who lives on the planet Baab, is spending a day with you on Earth. It's up to you to show him what life is like on our planet. On the back of this sheet, describing how you and Kip would spend a typical day exploring your part of Earth. What "Earthy" activities would you want to be sure that Kip doesn't miss out on?

FAMILY FUN

Use the quiz above to test your parents' knowledge of our home planet. Then blast off on your own expedition to Earth at <http://science.nationalgeographic.com/science/space/solar-system/earth.html>.



**ESCAPE
FROM PLANET
EARTH**

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Visit www.escapeearthmovie.com to join the fun.

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ACTIVITY TWO

OUT-OF-THIS-WORLD CROSSWORD

In *Escape From Planet Earth*, BASA is planet Baab's space agency—and you've been hired to join its Mission Control team. But before Scorch Supernova speeds off on a dangerous mission to answer an SOS from planet Earth, you need to make sure you know all about the solar system by using these space terms to complete the crossword puzzle.

SPACE TERMS

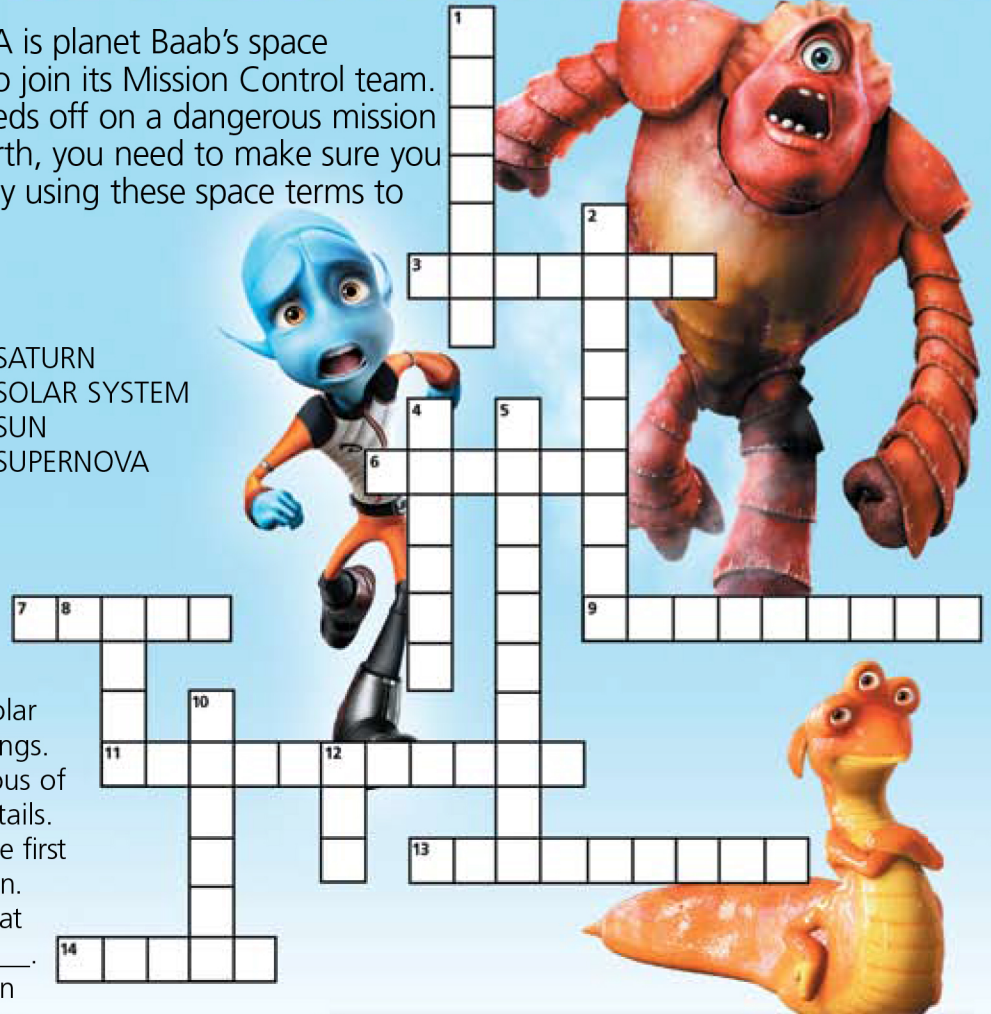
- | | | |
|-----------|-------------|--------------|
| ASTEROIDS | KUIPER BELT | SATURN |
| ASTRONAUT | MARS | SOLAR SYSTEM |
| COMET | MERCURY | SUN |
| GALAXY | PLANET | SUPERNOVA |
| JUPITER | PLUTO | |

Across

- The smallest planet in our solar system is closest to the sun.
- The second largest planet in our solar system is known for its beautiful rings.
- Halley's _____ is the most famous of these bright heavenly bodies with tails.
- In 1969, Neil Armstrong became the first _____ to set foot on the moon.
- Earth is among the eight planets that make up our _____.
- Millions of these rocks orbit the sun in an area between Mars and Jupiter.
- In 2006, scientists classified it as a dwarf planet.

Down

- The largest planet in our solar system has 63 moons.
- Scorch gets his name from this bright exploding star that can give off more light than millions of suns.
- This is a very large group of stars and planets, and ours is called the Milky Way.
- Pluto's home is in the _____, an icy area in the far reaches of our solar system.
- _____ is nicknamed "The Red Planet" because of its reddish soil.
- Scorch might have called Earth the dark _____, but it's anything but that to us.
- All the planets in our solar system orbit this star.



PLAN YOUR ESCAPE

Imagine that you are trapped on an alien planet like Torch Supernova. How would you escape? Who would help you? Write a story about what happens on the back of this sheet. Then underline the Space Terms you use in your story.

FAMILY FUN

Use the crossword clues to test your parents' knowledge of our solar system. Then visit www.nasa.gov/audience/forstudents/k-4/dictionary to build up your space vocabulary.



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ACTIVITY THREE

SHOW ME!

Although the main characters in *Escape From Planet Earth* may be blue aliens from another world, we human beings can still relate to the movie's themes about family, loyalty, and doing the right thing. Read the three scenarios from the movie below, then choose one scenario and draw a scene that shows how the adventures of Scorch Supernova and his family relate to your own life.



Astronaut Scorch Supernova is hailed as the movie's hero, but it's his brother, Gary, who saves him and becomes a hero, too.

Depict a time you or someone you know became a hero.

Scorch and Gary work as a team to try to defeat the evil General Shanker.

Illustrate a time when you worked with someone and accomplished something that you wouldn't have been able to do on your own.

Gary's son Kip thinks on his feet and uses blast tape to rescue his mom from the holding cell.

Illustrate a time when you had to think quickly to solve a problem. Depict how the problem was resolved.

**FAMILY FUN**

Create a Greetings from Earth! postcard to send to planet Baab. Choose a family photo for the front of your card and tell about your family on the back. Then visit the *Escape from Planet Earth* website at www.escapeearthmovie.com for a family online game competition!



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The activities in this program meet the following Common Core Standards for English Language Arts & Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects K-5.

**ACTIVITY ONE:
WELCOME, EARTHLINGS!**

GRADE 2

Reading Standards for Informational Text

• **Key Ideas and Details**

1. Ask and answer such questions as *who*, *what*, *where*, *when*, *why*, and *how* to demonstrate understanding of key details in text.

Writing Standards

• **Text Types and Purposes**

3. Write narratives in which they recount a well-elaborated event or short sequence of events, include details to describe actions, thoughts, and feelings, use temporal words to signal event order, and provide a sense of closure.

GRADE 3

Reading Standards for Information Text

• **Key Ideas and Details**

1. Ask and answer questions to demonstrate understanding of a text, referring explicitly to the text as the basis for the answers.

Writing Standards

• **Text Types and Purposes**

3. Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences.

GRADE 4

Reading Standards for Information Text

• **Key Ideas and Details**

1. Refer to details and examples in a text when explaining what the text says explicitly and when drawing inferences from text.

Writing Standards

• **Text Types and Purposes**

3. Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences.

GRADE 5

Reading Standards for Information Text

• **Integration of Knowledge and Ideas**

1. Draw on information from multiple print or digital sources, demonstrating the ability to locate an answer to a question quickly or to solve a problem efficiently.

Writing Standards

• **Text Types and Purposes**

3. Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences.

**ACTIVITY TWO:
OUT-OF-THIS-WORLD CROSSWORD**

GRADE 2

Language Standards

• **Vocabulary Acquisition and Use**

4. Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning words and phrases based on *grade 2 reading and content*, choosing flexibly from an array of strategies.

Writing Standards

• **Text Types and Purposes**

3. Write narratives in which they recount a well-elaborated event or short sequence of events, include details to describe actions, thoughts, and feelings, use temporal words to signal event order, and provide a sense of closure.

GRADE 3

Language Standards

• **Knowledge of Language**

3. Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening.

• **Vocabulary Acquisition and Use**

4. Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning word and phrases based on *grade 3 reading and content*, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.

Writing Standards

• **Text Types and Purposes**

3. Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences.

GRADE 4

Language Standards

• **Knowledge of Language**

3. Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening.





The activities in this program meet the following Common Core Standards for English Language Arts & Literacy in History/Social Studies, Science, and Technical Subjects K-5.

Vocabulary Acquisition and Use

- Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning word and phrases based on *grade 4 reading and content*, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.

Writing Standards

Text Types and Purposes

- Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences.

GRADE 5

Language Standards

Knowledge of Language

- Use knowledge of language and its conventions when writing, speaking, reading, or listening.

Vocabulary Acquisition and Use

- Determine or clarify the meaning of unknown and multiple-meaning word and phrases based on *grade 5 reading and content*, choosing flexibly from a range of strategies.

Writing Standards

Text Types and Purposes

- Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences.

ACTIVITY THREE: SHOW ME!

GRADE 2

Speaking and Listening Standards

Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas

- Tell a story or recount an experience with appropriate facts and relevant, descriptive details, speaking audibly in coherent sentences.

Writing Standards

Research to Build and Present Knowledge

- Recall information from experiences or gather information from provided sources to answer a question.

GRADE 3

Speaking and Listening Standards

Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas

- Report on a topic or text, tell a story, or recount an experience with appropriate facts and relevant, descriptive details, speaking clearly at an understandable pace.
- Add visual displays when appropriate to emphasize or enhance certain facts or details.

Writing Standards

Text Types and Purposes

- Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.

GRADE 4

Speaking and Listening Standards

Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas

- Report on a topic or text, tell a story, or recount an experience in an organized manner, using appropriate facts and relevant, descriptive details to support main ideas or themes; speak clearly at an understandable pace.
- Add visual displays to presentations to enhance the development of main ideas or themes.

Writing Standards

Text Types and Purposes

- Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.

GRADE 5

Speaking and Listening Standards

Presentation of Knowledge and Ideas

- Report on a topic or text, tell a story or present an opinion, sequencing ideas logically and using appropriate facts and relevant, descriptive details to support main ideas or themes; speak clearly at an understandable pace.
- Include visual displays in presentations when appropriate to enhance the development of main ideas or themes.

Writing Standards

Text Types and Purposes

- Write informative/explanatory texts to examine a topic and convey ideas and information clearly.

