



# Solar System: Teacher Tips & Helpful Hints

**N.C.S.S:** 6.E.1 Understand the earth/moon/sun system, and the properties, structures, and predictable motions of celestial bodies in the Universe.

- The activity is broken up into three different activities:
  - **Activity 1: Rockets! *Engineering Challenge*** (6.E.1.3)
  - **Activity 2: Phases of the Moon** (6.E.1.1)
  - **Activity 3: Eclipses** (6.E.1.1)

## Activity 1: Rockets! *Engineering Challenge*

- There are 2 effervescent tablets in each packet and 3 packets in each SAP.
- It is ok if the effervescent tablet is broken when students open up the package. They want to use ~ ¼ of a tablet.
- 7.5 mL is located on the 3rd line up on the medicine cup.
- Demonstrate to students how to flip their rocket onto its cap. They want to have the payload on **top**.
- Each time the student launches their rocket they should check their surroundings to make sure it is safe to do so.
- There is a ***Rockets!: Student Activity Sheet*** available.
- There is a ***Space Spinoff*** answer key.

## Activity 2: Phases of the Moon

- The ***Moon Log*** runs for an entire month. This can be used as a hook into the Solar System.
- Make sure students have an adult help them find a lamp with a removable shade.
- Let students know that the bulb will be hot and should not be touched.
- After students have completed the challenge of labeling their moon log, discuss as a class and have students correct if necessary

## Activity 3: Eclipses

- Make sure students have an adult help them find a lamp with a removable shade.
- Let students know that the bulb will be hot and should not be touched.
- There is an Eclipses: ***Student Activity Sheet*** available.

## N.C.S.S Clarifying Objectives

- 6.E.1.1 Explain how the relative motion and relative position of the Sun, Earth, and Moon affect the seasons, tides, phases of the moon, and eclipses.
- 6.E.1.3 Summarize space exploration and the understandings gained from them.