Georgia Performance Standards Framework for ELA Unit 6 – 4th Grade

Grade: 4
Topic: Cross Curriculum Integration of Informational Text
Instructional unit: Unit 6, Habits of Effective Readers and Writers of Poetry and Drama (in reference to Week 2 #5)
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The task: Explain to students that informational texts can be reconstructed in a different format to create meaningful connections. In this instance, the connection is with science concepts. Given the variety of organizational structures in poetry, the students will select an appropriate format to present facts about stars, star patterns, and planets. Then, the teacher will ask students to consider the following: Concrete poems, Cinquain, and Free Verse with infusion of similes, metaphors, personification, alliteration, and rhyming couplets. Students will create a poster with accompanying poem(s) or PowerPoint presentation to be shared with primary students.

Differentiation:
- Scaffold with the following poem starter. Allow students to insert words.
  The star is bright tonight
  And the star____________.
  The star is bright tonight
  And the moon is__________.

- Ask students to circle what the poem is about and to share what they have seen at night when they look at the sky.

Focus Standard:
SCIENCE S4E1 Students will compare and contrast the physical attributes of stars, star patterns, and planets.
  a. Recognize the physical attributes of stars in the night sky such as number, size, color and patterns.

Complementary Focus Standards:
ELA4R1 The student demonstrates comprehension and shows evidence of a warranted and responsible explanation of a variety of literary and informational texts. For informational texts, the student reads and comprehends in order to develop understanding and expertise and produces evidence of reading that
  a. Locates facts that answer reader’s questions.
  g. Makes perceptive and well-developed connections.

ELA4 R4 The student reads aloud, accurately (in the range of 95%), familiar materials in a variety of genres of the quality and complexity illustrated in the ample reading list, in a way that makes meaning clear to the listeners.
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ELA4W3  The student uses research and technology to support writing. The student
  d. Demonstrates basic keyboarding skills and familiarity with computer terminology.

Circumstances of the Assignment/Notes to the Teachers:  www.google.com Images tab has a variety of colorful patterns for stars and planets. Students could use these as visual stimuli in creating poems.