

Space: Space Explorers

Teacher guide | Foundation-Year 2

Release candidate 0.9 | Reviewed 14 August 2026 | Curriculum-linked release candidate

Program position: Students use the projected Space experience to practise noticing, sorting and questioning. A separate safe observation of the real sky is required for direct sky-pattern evidence.

At a glance

Phase	Time	Learning evidence
Before	10-15 min	Sort familiar objects: star, planet, moon or human-made.
During	moving show	Remember three observations; listen for model and fiction labels.
After	30-45 min	Complete sorting, evidence labels and space postcard.
Sky check	10 min	Safe day observation plus night observation or supplied record.
Share	10 min	Observation, supported fact and question.

Learning intentions

- Identify the Sun as a star, Earth and Mars as planets, and the Moon and Europa as moons.
- Distinguish natural celestial objects from human-made space technology.
- Separate supported facts, models or representations, and make-believe scenes.
- Record and communicate a simple observation and question.

The pack supports selected Science content only; it is not a complete Foundation-Level 2 unit.

Victorian Curriculum F-10 Version 2.0

The strongest curriculum link is VC2S2U08. Real-sky observation must be taught separately from the projected experience.

Code	Status	Pack evidence
VC2S2H01	Core	Projected observations are separated from scientific and instrument evidence.
VC2S2H02	Supporting	Students ask questions and use familiar sky patterns for simple predictions.
VC2S2U08	Core	Earth is one of 8 planets; students identify celestial objects and sky patterns.
VC2S2I03	Core	Observations recorded through drawing, speech, pointing, circling or writing.
VC2S2I04	Core	Objects and claims sorted with provided organisers.
VC2S2I06	Core	Students share an observation, fact and question.
VC2S2I01 / I05	Conditional	Claim only when prediction and comparison accompany a real-sky observation.

Evidence boundary: The projected show can prompt curiosity and classification. It does not provide direct observations of the Sun, Moon, planets or stars and is not to scale unless a specific relationship is labelled.

Answer guidance

Object groups

- Sun - star; Earth and Mars - planets; Earth's Moon and Europa - moons.
- Natural: Saturn and a nebula. Human-made: International Space Station and Mars rover.
- Europa is a moon of Jupiter; Enceladus is a moon of Saturn.

Fact, model or make-believe

Example	Answer	Reason
Earth is one of 8 planets	Fact	Supported by repeated scientific observations.
Planets close together	Model	The show compresses the enormous distances.
Whale-like alien	Make-believe	No organism has been observed on Europa.
Bright black-hole picture	Model	The black hole itself does not emit or reflect light.
People built the ISS	Fact	It is a human-made orbiting laboratory.

Real-sky observation

- Day records may include the Sun's apparent position, the Moon when visible, clouds and changing light. Never require students to look at the Sun.
- Night records may come from a supervised observation or a dated authoritative image or observation log.
- Accept simple patterns such as objects appearing in different positions, changing daylight, or repeated Moon observations. Do not force a pattern from one observation.

Accept alternative answers when the student identifies a defensible category and explains their evidence.

Teaching, access and wellbeing

Before the visit

- Teach star, planet, moon, orbit, natural, human-made, model and fiction.
- Explain that a projected model can help us imagine space while changing size, distance, colour or time.
- Preview darkness, loud launches, floating debris, an impact, a supernova, close alien images and the UFO finale.
- Let students choose a quiet noticing goal rather than requiring spoken answers during movement.

During and after

- Announce make-believe before the futuristic spacecraft, Europa city, alien organisms and UFO appear.
- Do not delay the moving group for call-and-response.
- Invite drawing, pointing, speaking, circling or supported writing.
- Provide a still-scene list or transcript for students unable to process moving imagery.
- Use the show as a prompt, then use a safe outdoor observation or authoritative record for sky-pattern learning.

Assessment snapshot

Evidence	Beginning	Developing	Secure
Observation	Names a scene.	Names a visible object.	Records a precise observation.
Grouping	Sorts with support.	Sorts familiar examples.	Explains a category choice.
Evidence thinking	Retells the show.	Names a model or fiction scene.	Separates fact, model and fiction.
Communication	Shares an idea.	Uses topic words.	Shares an observation, fact and question.

Fact, source and release control

Topic	Required control
Solar System	Eight planets; compact show positions and distances are not to scale.
Moon and missions	Do not name a specific mission unless the venue confirms the visual source.
Microgravity	Objects appear to float because the station and contents are in continuous free fall, not because gravity is absent.
Colour and time	Nebula colours and rapid supernova or planet-formation sequences are visualisations with compressed time.
Black hole	Call it a representation; the black hole itself does not emit or reflect light.
Life beyond Earth	Earth is the only world currently known to support life.
Fiction	Label futuristic craft, Europa city, alien organisms and UFO before they appear.

Approval gate

- Venue operator confirms the 20-file sequence, titles and final timings.
- Science reviewer approves facts and all model, representation, speculation and fiction labels.
- Education lead approves curriculum mapping, age suitability and sky-observation instructions.
- Read-aloud timing, sensory cues and accessibility checks are recorded.

Sources

- [VCAA - Level 2](#)
- [VCAA - Science scope and sequence](#)
- [NASA - Solar System Facts](#)
- [NASA - Space Station FAQ](#)
- [NASA - Mars Facts](#)
- [NASA - Enceladus](#)
- [NASA - Europa evidence](#)
- [NASA - Anatomy of a Black Hole](#)

Curriculum and factual sources checked 14 August 2026. Recheck immediately before publication.