

Building Science Concept book *Our Star, the Sun* Book 20

An interactive resource that supports this is a website called brain pop, that has special videos explaining different processes such as photosynthesis and has activities to do after to cement learning in a creative way, BrainPOP, Learn about Photosynthesis

<http://www.brainpop.com/science/cellularlifeandgenetics>

BrainPOP | Science | Learn about Photosynthesis. (n.d.). *BrainPOP - Animated Educational Site for Kids - Science, Social Studies, English, Math, Arts*. Retrieved August 5, 2013, from <http://www.brainpop.com/science/cellularlifeandgenetics>

Home | Sciencelearn Hub. (n.d.). *Home | Sciencelearn Hub*. Retrieved August 2, 2013, from <http://www.sciencelearn.org.nz>

A great online resource that helps support the relevance of this book could be:

<http://www.engineeringinteract.org/resources/astroadventure/flash/concepts/sun.htm>, because this link goes to a page where it goes through a module about the Sun and the stars. This module includes scientific facts about why the Earth needs the Sun and why people need the Sun to survive. It also helps the students to understand this by using images of the Sun and Earth and giving a, not to scale but giving an idea about how small the Earth is compared to the Sun.

<http://fairfaxnie.co.nz/file/communicating-science.pdf> this is a good resource that could help a teacher teach the Sun, our star because it has useful ideas on how to use vocabulary in the classroom while teaching and how to communicate ideas. An example from this article, “When describing a leaf from the Mapau plant the children may refer to the green leaf being ‘wiggly’ with red stems. But how would scientists (botanists) describe the leaf? They may refer to the leaf (blade) being flat (laminar) and the leaf having a petiole (stalk) that attached to the plant stem. It is the petiole that is red. The edge of the leaf (margin) is called sinuate (wiggly or undulating). The leaf has a line (midrib) running down the upper surface. Specific vocabulary reduces confusion and aids detailed description – especially important when scientists try to classify an organism.

To support my claim as to why I feel this book is still relevant to teaching now, I have added in a website all about the sun

<http://academic.brooklyn.cuny.edu/physics/sobel/Nucphys/sun.html> Because I am doing this essay on teaching level 1 and 2, I obviously would not use all this information as it would be an information overload to the children, with words that they possibly have never heard before. I would take bits from this information that the children would understand and explain to them that yes, learning about the sun is still so important and they would not have a lot of what they have now without the little thing everyone takes for granted, the sun.

With this youtube clip <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OYVmekXH17M> I think it would be a really good idea for young children to learn a little bit about the sun as in it, it says “sun

please shine on me” in an activity you would be able to expand on that and see if the children know what would happen if there was no sun in the world.

I believe that ‘Our star, the sun’ is a brilliant book that could still, with huge relevance, be used in a school to teach science. It has many ideas of activities and useful information the children will love. I have found a website that I think would go perfectly with the book. The website is full with information, but it also caters to the children’s needs, which are fun and interesting thing which may also be a little bit challenging. <http://www.earthsunmoon.co.uk/> This website is an interactive learning page that allows the children to play games as well as learning a ton of information about the sun. I would be able to make a few lesson just from using the website and the topic of the ‘Building Science Concepts’ series. Mine being ‘Our star, the sun’.

I could provide good learning experiences with this book by asking them questions about what they already know about and then showing them the online resource (<http://www.engineeringinteract.org/resources/astroadventure/flash/concepts/sun.htm>). This is an awesome resource that tells you the basic information, about the sun, and then you can go in depth with the books information. The sun is something that everyone should know about and so should be a key lesson for science. This is because it is something that is there no matter what the day is like it will be there for another 7 billion years at least. Also students deserve to be taught some astronomy in primary school because it is not a major subject later on in high school. Two other resources that I would find quite useful in teaching this topic to children and that strengthens the idea that this book should still be used/relevant to science, are <http://fairfaxnie.co.nz/file/communicating-science.pdf>, and <http://www.thetimenow.com/astronomy/the-sun.php>. These two resources would help very much in the teaching of the sun, our star.