

**AIMS Activities**  
**correlated to**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Next Generation Science Units**

**Sun and Stars**

*“Apparent Sizes”, AIMS Out of this World, pg. 8-12. Observe how objects seem to change in size with distance.*

*“Cool Colors”, AIMS Magazine October 2001, pg. 36-40. Record, graph, and compare the temperatures of different colored objects that have been heated by the sun.*

*“It All Depends on Your Point of View”, AIMS Out of this World, pg. 194-203. Discover that the star patterns seen in constellations are the result of the observer's perspective. Construct 3-d models of constellations.*

*“Stargazers”, More Picture Perfect Science Lessons, pg. 179-196. Observe stars and record observations. Learn about constellations.*

*“Stars in the Milky Way Galaxy”, AIMS Out of this World, pg. 181-193. Discover the method scientists use to estimate the number of stars in the galaxy.*

*“Sunsational Changes”, AIMS Earth Book, pg. 329-335. Explore how the sun heats Earth materials; measure, record, and graph temperature changes over time.*

**Properties of Matter**

*“All Sorts of Stuff”, AIMS Under Construction, pg. 5-9. Sort and classify a variety of materials.*

*“Balance Bazaar”, AIMS Solve It! 3<sup>rd</sup>, pg. 78-83. Devise a plan for ordering objects from lightest to heaviest using only a balance and the objects themselves.*

*“Cool Colors”, AIMS Magazine October 2001, pg. 36-40. Record, graph, and compare the temperatures of different colored objects that have been heated by the sun.*

*“Cups 'n Stuff”, AIMS Hardhatting in a Geo World, pg. 59-63. Measure and order the mass of five different materials with equal volume.*

*“Melt an Ice Cube”, AIMS Under Construction”, pg. 148-153. Determine ways to rapidly melt an ice cube, and ways to prevent ice from melting.*

*“Seed Sort”, AIMS Primarily Plants, pg. 43-49. Count and sort seeds to find likenesses and differences.*

*“Temperature Told Hot or Cold”, AIMS Winter Wonders, pg. 82-86. Build a model thermometer and use an immersion thermometer.*

*“What is Hot and What is Cold”, AIMS Primarily Physics, pg. 121-125. Distinguish between hot and cold things.*

*“What's the Temperature?”, AIMS Primarily Physics, pg. 134-143. Read a thermometer in various locations.*

## **Water Cycle**

*“Disappearing Act”, AIMS Primarily Earth, pg.102-105. Observe the process of evaporation.*

*“Melt an Ice Cube”, AIMS Under Construction”, pg. 148-153. Determine ways to rapidly melt an ice cube, and ways to prevent ice from melting.*

*“The Mini Water Cycle”, AIMS Water Precious Water Book A, pg. 23-24. Make a miniature water cycle inside a plastic bag.*

*“Moving Raindrops in the Water Cycle”, AIMS Water Precious Water Book A, pg. 27- 29. Construct a visual aid depicting the water cycle.*

*“Moving Water”, AIMS Water Precious Water Book A, pg. 25-26. Demonstrate evaporation and condensation.*

*“Water to Ice to Water”, AIMS Primarily Earth, pg. 106-109. Discover that water expands as it freezes and that it will float.*

## **Energy: Heat, Light, Gravity**

*“A Safe Landing”, AIMS Under Construction, pg. 25-32. Explore the effectiveness of different materials in absorbing the energy of a hard-boiled egg which is dropped from a determined height.*

*“Catch A Ray”, AIMS Ray's Reflections, pg. 1-5. Use plane mirrors to catch a beam of light and redirect it.*

*“Clownin' Around”, AIMS Magazine July/August 1997, pg. 44-47. Look through the water of partially filled containers and observe how the drawing of a clown changes.*

*“Defying Gravity”, AIMS Mostly Magnets, pg. 64-66. Use magnets and other materials to build a system that defies gravity.*

*“Heat and Color”, AIMS Primarily Physics, pg. 154-159. Observe that dark colors absorb radiant energy faster than light colors using a thermometer to measure temperature.*

*“Heat from Friction”, AIMS Primarily Physics, pg. 126-128. Observe that rubbing two surfaces together produces energy.*

*“Hot Pockets”, AIMS Magazine 2005, pg. 2-9. Explore the effects of color on the absorption of heat energy.*

*“Just Passing Through”, AIMS Primarily Physics, pg. 92-97. Use a flashlight to discover which materials are transparent, translucent, or opaque.*

*“Light Rays Slow Down”, AIMS Primarily Physics, pg. 98-102. Observe properties of light as it travels through different mediums.*

*“Mirror, Mirror”, More Picture Perfect Science Lessons, pg. 147. Using flashlights, mirrors, and spoons, explore how light travels and investigate how light is reflected differently off of different surfaces.*

*“Mirrors Reflect”, AIMS Primarily Physics, pg. 85-91. Use mirrors to show light travels in a straight line.*

*“Prism Power”, AIMS Primarily Physics, pg. 113-118. Recognize that white light is made of different colors.*

*“Puff Mobiles”, AIMS Popping with Power, pg. 42-46. Construct a straw sail car powered by their own wind energy. They will test and modify the car to achieve the maximum distance in five seconds.*

*“Roller Coasters”, More Picture Perfect Science Lessons, pg. 133-146. Explore ways to change the speed and direction of a rolling object. Investigate the idea that gravity affects all objects equally.*

*“Sheep in a Jeep”, Picture Perfect Science Lessons, pg. 181-204. Investigate forces and motion using ramps, toy jeeps, and plastic farm animals. Design and evaluate a device to slow the motion of a falling object.*

*“What is Hot and What is Cold”, AIMS Primarily Physics, pg. 121-125. Distinguish between hot and cold things.*

*“What's the Temperature?”, AIMS Primarily Physics, pg. 134-143. Read a thermometer in various locations.*

## **Plants**

*“Cactus”, AIMS Budding Botanist, pg. 87-89. Observe the adaptations of a cactus plant.*

*“It's in the Bag”, AIMS Primarily Plants, pg. Plant seeds in a plastic bag and measure the growth of roots, stems, and leaves.*

*“New Plant Discovery”, AIMS Budding Botanist, pg. 90-92. Design and make a plant adapted to a certain type of environment.*

*“Photosynthesis”, AIMS Budding Botanist, pg. 123-128. Observe the production of oxygen through photosynthesis.*

*“Rice is Life”, Picture Perfect Science Lessons, pg. 69-91. Explore the life cycle of rice and explore controls, variables, and experimental design by investigating how rice grows and by designing their own growth experiment.*

*“Spores: A Special Seed”, AIMS Primarily Plants, pg. 83-86. Observe spores.*

*“This is My Flower”, AIMS Primarily Plants, pg. 184-189. Describe the parts of a flower and their functions.*

*“What Temperature is Best?”, AIMS Primarily Plants, pg. 126-129. Put plants in three different environments to see how they respond to extremes of temperature.*

*“What Do Plants Need to Grow?”, AIMS Primarily Plants, pg. 120-125. Understand that healthy plants need soil, water, light, and air.*

## **Animals**

*“Animal Antics”, AIMS Critters, pg. 8-16. Sort animals into appropriate classifications.*

*“Animals of a Sort”, AIMS, pg. 1-9. Sort animals using various features or characteristics.*

*“Mammals on My Mind”, AIMS Bats Incredible, pg. 10-17. Explore characteristics of and analyze information about bats to determine their fit into this category.*

*“Schoolyard Safari”, AIMS Magazine October 1998, pg. 49-56. During the four seasons, observe areas of the schoolyard and record observations about the plants and animals.*

*“Season Cycles”, AIMS Magazine Fall 2005, pg. 10-17. Recognize that changes in seasons change animal behavior.*