

LUNA GRACE

GIRL FROM OUTER SPACE

Classroom Ideas for **KS1**

This set of teaching notes is designed for Key Stage One. Jump into the world of Luna Grace to think about FEELINGS, IDENTITY, WRITING, SCIENCE and lots of fun!



Luna Grace Girl From Outer Space is written by Julie Sykes and illustrated by Emily Jones. The book has 8 chapters and is illustrated in colour. It is an ideal read-a-loud for the KS1 classroom.

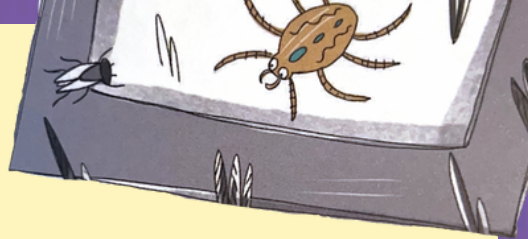


Published by Piccadilly Press
Text © Julie Sykes Illustrations © Emily Jones.

Created by

 **Reading
Rocks**

Local Wildlife



Curriculum Links:

- ★ KS1 Science: working scientifically
- ★ Year 1 Science: 'identify and name a variety of common wild and garden plants'
- ★ Year 1 Science: 'identify and name a variety of common animals'
- ★ Year 2 Science: 'identify and name a variety of plants and animals in their habitats'

In chapter 5, Luna and her class go to the local park to discover the local wildlife. This is just like the job her parents are here to do on Earth!

Wildlife Walk: pages to read: 79 -81

- ★ Saturn Class use a QUADRAT, or as Luna's parents call them A COUNTER. Use the 'My Wildlife Counter' sheet for pupils to create their own quadrat square by cutting out a square hole. Take this on a wildlife walk around your school grounds, or local park, to see what animals you can discover.
- ★ Encourage pupils to work scientifically and observe really closely. They can sketch what they see in the stars cards on the 'My Wildlife Walk' page.

Fabulous Flowers: pages to read: 32 - 38

- ★ Luna's Gram and Grampie are back on their planet Starbright. Luna sends them messages via Star cards. In this one, she sends them some flowers she has discovered in her new garden - forget me nots. Use the 'Fabulous Flowers' and 'Flower Observations' pages to help pupils learn the names of common British plants and flowers. You may wish to share more images with your projector.

- ★ You could follow this activity with some real plants and flowers to observe and draw.



My Wildlife Counter

1. Fold the card and carefully snip at the centre cross.
2. Now you can get your scissors in to cut along the dotted line.
3. You should have an empty square in the middle of your frame.
4. Now you can place it in different parts of your local environment to see what creatures you can spot.

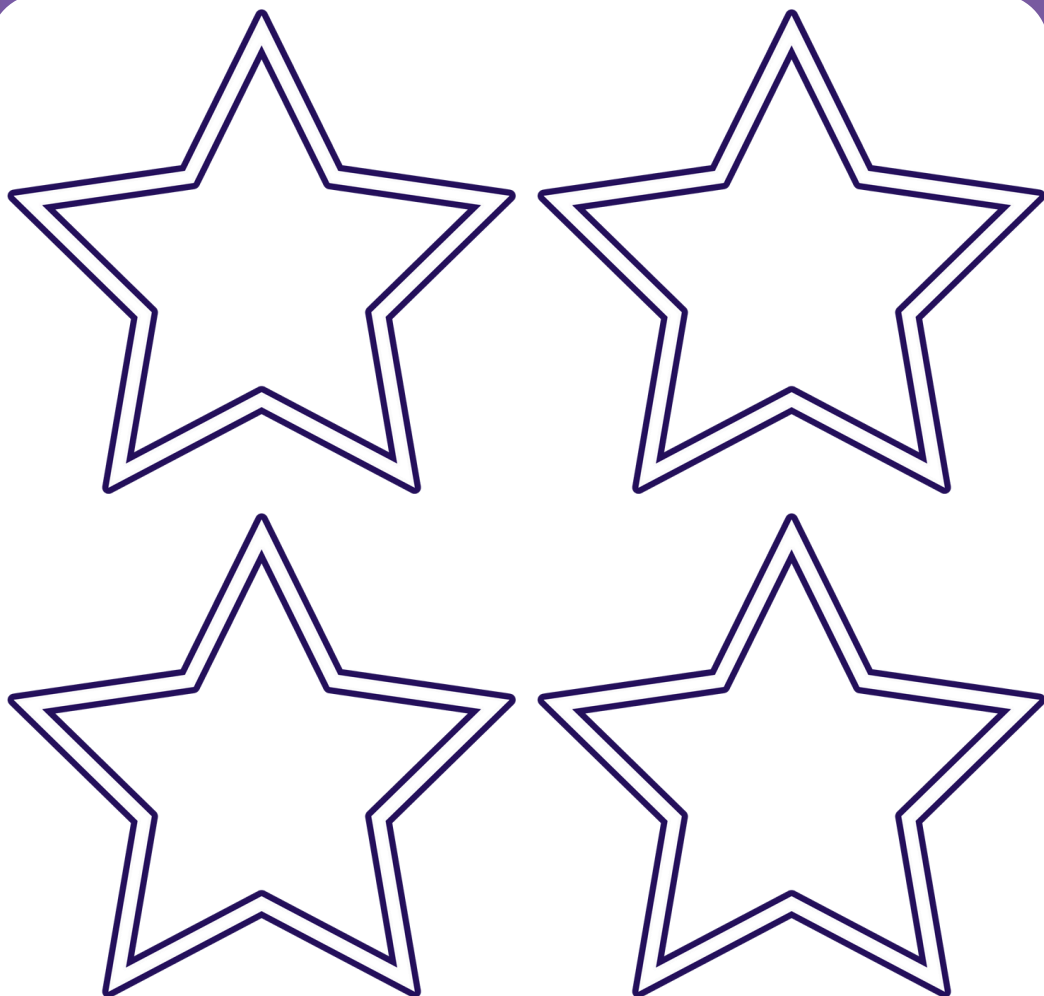


What creatures can you discover in your local area?



My Wildlife Walk

Can you draw the creatures you find on your wildlife walk?



Look really closely.
Observe like a scientist.



Fabulous Flowers

Can you match the flowers to their names?



.....



.....



.....



.....



.....



.....




Use my observation notes to help you match the flower to their name.



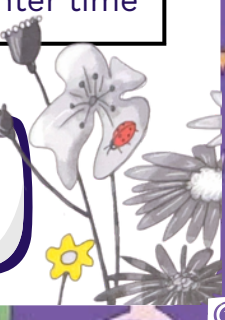
Flower Observations

Luna has described each flower here for you. can you match the name to the correct photograph?

Flower Name:	Flower Description:
Common Poppy	vibrant red petals, found in fields
Foxglove	tall plant with pink, bell shaped petals
Primrose	delicate yellow flowers, found in hedgerows
Bluebell	violet-blue flowers with petals shaped like bells
Heather	tiny pink flowers on wiry stems
Snowdrop	small with beautiful white peals, found in winter time



Use my observation notes to help you match the flower to their name.



Writing and Word Play

★ Luna discovers that the names given to some Earth creatures in her Galaxy Traveller book aren't quite right. Try a bit of word play by giving some creatures your class know and love a name that might appear in the Galaxy Traveller.

★ Share the examples. A spider is a leggy racer. A ladybird is a dolly beetle.

★ Use the 'Crazy Creature Names' sheet to get pupils talking about some common creatures. First, get them thinking about what the animals DO. How do they move. Pupils can act this out. How many words can we think of for this? Then focus on what they look like. Word banks may be useful to support this. You may wish to show images of the animals and videos through your projector.

Star cards:

You will find a star card from Luna at the very end of chapter 8.

★ Luna's star cards are a bit like an intergalactic postcard. Discuss when we send messages to our loved ones. You could share some real postcards as examples and greetings cards.

★ Look at Luna's example together. Can pupils spot the features? There's a greeting, main body of the letter, who it's from. Then, look at the sentence types included. Can pupils see the question at the end? Why might Luna have used this?

★ Model writing a star card to a loved one. Pupils can use the 'My Star card' sheet to write their own.

An Interview:

At the very end of chapter 8, there is an interview with Luna's parents.

★ Share the interview together. Highlight the questions the reporter asked Estrella and Ambrose.

★ Pupils can role play answering the questions as Luna and asking them as the news fly. (try adding some props for fun - deely boppers for the news fly and purple hair for Luna)



Crazy Creature Names

What name might these creatures be called in the Galaxy Traveller?



.....



.....



.....



.....



.....



.....



Think about how they move,
what they look like and maybe
how the smell!!!

real names:
worm
snail
ants
field mouse
robin
kingfisher



My Star Card



Think of someone special you'd like to write a message to.

Write a Star card to them just like Luna Grace

A large purple star outline is centered on the page. Inside the star, there are seven horizontal lines for writing a message. The lines are evenly spaced and extend across most of the width of the star.



Remember to include a question at the end to get your reader to write back to you.



An Interview with Luna

What do you think Luna's answers would be?



How does it feel to be living so far away from home?



Can you tell our viewers about one thing on Earth that's different from Starbright?



Do you have one piece of advice for anyone looking to become a nature scientist?



Feelings and Fitting in

Travelling to a whole new planet is tricky for Luna and she has lots of different feelings. She's very worried about fitting in.

Hair Colours: **find Luna's hair chart at the back of the book.**

★ Check out all the colours and their matching feelings in Luna's hair chart. Discuss the feelings. Can pupils think of a time when they felt that feeling? Can they show how their face and body might change when they have that feeling?

★ Pupils can use the 'Full of Feelings' sheet to create their own feelings hair chart.

Fitting in: **pages to read: 46 - 47**

★ In chapter 2, when the family first arrive, they paint the boring white walls of the house with blue and purple stripes. At first, Luna loves it. But a little later on she's worried about standing out too much.

★ What colours or patterns would your pupils like to paint their house to really stand out?

★ Chat about times when pupils have felt different. Did it feel good, bad, awkward, fun?

★ Luna's mum says, "Being different is not the same as fitting in." Talk about what this means.

★ Celebrate each others differences. Go around the circle. Pupils say something about them that is different and wonderful.

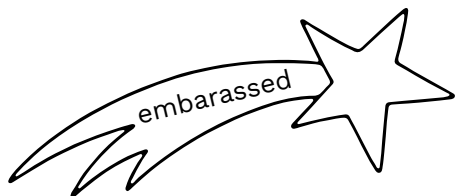
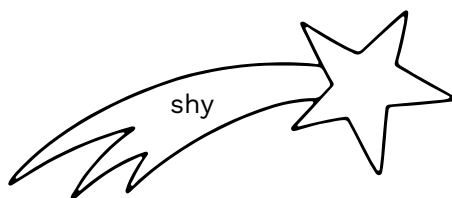
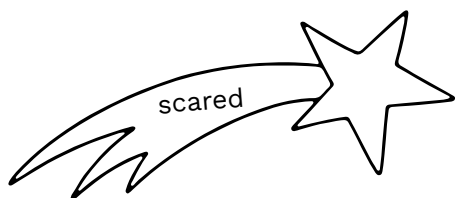
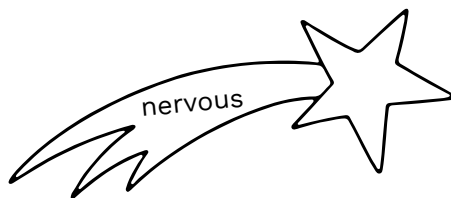
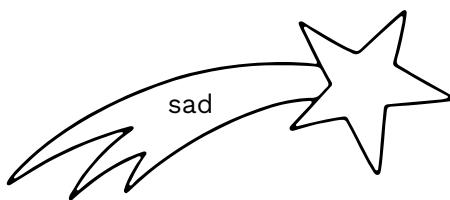
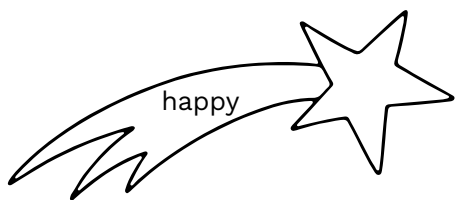


"Being different is not the same as fitting in."



Full of Feelings

What colour would your hair change to for the different feelings?



Colours and Creativity

Colours are very important to the story because Luna's hair changes with her feelings.



Colour Hunt:

★ Challenge your pupils to collect as many colours as they can. They can look for them in magazines, catalogues, paint charts etc.. Collect all the cuttings and create colour collages. Put all the red pictures together, all the green pictures together... etc This collection could be across a few days.

★ Pupils could do this as a class, in groups or on their own. Some pupils may be able to do this digitally.

Colour names:

★ Use the colour collages that you have created to spark exciting expanded noun phrases.

★ For example - if the image is of a green apple, this could become juicy apple green. If the image is a red rose, it could be beautiful rose red.

★ Pupils can create their own colour phrase banks using this technique and the 'My Colours' sheet. These can be used to support further writing.





My Colours

Collect your colour expanded noun
phrases here:

red

blue

yellow

green

orange

purple

