Objective:

Students will understand what stars are and why they “disappear” during the daytime.

Arkansas State Standards Addressed:

Science

ESS.10.K.1 Distinguish between celestial bodies and other objects in the sky: sun, moon, other stars, clouds, birds, planes.

Activity:

Full activity description is available at this link: https://www.scholastic.com/teachers/lesson-plans/teaching-content/magic-school-bus-sees-stars-science-activity/

Though this specific worksheet may be a little too advanced for most kindergarteners, the basic idea of this lesson plan would be a good starting point for introducing celestial objects to students and getting them outside and observing the night sky. One recommended adaptation would be creating a separate, simpler, paper for the take-home star count report and just using the part of the worksheet needed for the Astro-Liz demonstration.

For an additional activity that would complement an exploration of stars, see the constellation sewing cards found online here: http://kidsactivitiesblog.com/53553/star-sewing-cards-kids. The cards would be great for introducing the idea of constellations to young students, and would be a good exercise for fine-motor skill development.

Additional Resources at Bentonville Public Library:

The following resources are specifically about stars. Accelerated Reading Levels are included when available. All items are available for checkout at Bentonville Public Library; call numbers are included in brackets.

Books

- Discover the Stars by Cynthia Pratt Nicolson. AR Reading Level: 3.7. Non-Fiction. [ENF 523.8 NIC]
- Does the Sun Sleep? by Martha Rustad. AR Reading Level: 2.8. [ENF 523 RUS]
- Draw Me a Star by Eric Carle. AR Reading Level: 1.4. Picture Book. [PIC Carle Eric]
- Stars by Mary Lyn Ray. AR Reading Level: 2.3. Picture Book. [PIC Ray Mary]
- Stars by Steve Tomecek. AR Reading Level: 3.6. Non-Fiction. [ENF 523.8 TOM]
- Stars Beneath Your Bed: The Surprising Story of Dust by April Pulley Sayre. AR Reading Level: 4.6. [ENF 551.51 SAY]
- Stellar Stargazer! by Jane O’Connor. AR Reading Level: 3.3. Picture Book. [PIC O’Connor Jane]
- Stories in the Stars series. [ENF (various call numbers)].
- Sun, Moon, and Stars by Hannah Wilson. Non-Fiction. [ENF 520 WIL]
- Sun, Snow, Stars, Sky by Catherine Anholt. Picture Book. [PIC Anholt Catherine]

Explore Space Exhibit Information:

Explore Space: A Cosmic Journey, a traveling exhibition for libraries, is part of the STAR Library Education Network (STAR_Net) led by the National Center for Interactive Learning at the Space Science Institute. Exhibit partners include the American Library Association, the Lunar and Planetary Institute, and Afterschool Alliance. Explore Space is supported through a grant from the National Science Foundation.
Star Gazing - Constellation Sewing Cards

ANDROMEDA

THE LITTLE DIPPER

For personal use only. ©Michelle McInerney, MollyMooCrafts.com
Star Gazing- Constellation Sewing Cards

THE BIG DIPPER

CANIS MAJOR

For personal use only. ©Michelle McInerney, MollyMooCrafts.com
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ORION

CASSIOPEIA

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