

Literacy Based Making Activity: The Darkest Dark

Grade Level: K - 5	Book: The Darkest Dark : by Chris Hadfield
Lesson Objective: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• K-1 Students build a cardboard rocket ship to explore themes from the book.• 2-5 Students design and build a scene from the story using circuits.	
Topic/Theme: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Circuits• Space and darkness• Growing up and fulfilling dreams	ELA Units: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3rd Grade: Unit 2. Ways characters shape stories• 4th Grade: Unit 4. Points of View, Unit 6. Theme• 5th Grade: Unit 2. Developing Characters Relationships, Unit 4. Recognizing Author's Point of View, Unit 5. Technology's Impact on Society
Materials: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Large cardboard boxes (K-1)• Shoe boxes (2-5 for dioramas)• LED throwies (LED, 3V coin-cell battery, small binder clip)• Copper tape• Colored markers, paint, etc. (to decorate the class rocket)• Makery materials	Pre-Lessons Suggested: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prior knowledge of circuits, possibly exploring circuit blocks and paper circuits.• NASA space program, Apollo mission
Steps (K-1 Students): <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Read The Darkest Dark: by Chris Hadfield with whole class2) Tell students that they will build a classroom rocket ship. Each table group will be responsible for different parts of the rocket.3) Assign roles to student groups.4) Show students materials.5) Students design, build and decorate their rocket parts.6) Assemble the rocket!	
Steps (2-5 Students): <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) Read The Darkest Dark: by Chris Hadfield with whole class2) Tell students that they will a scene from the book, and use paper circuits to illuminate their scene.3) Show students materials.4) Students design and build their scenes.5) Share out (whole class, small group, gallery walk style, etc.), explaining their choices.	