Annotated student work sample 3

Transcript

What can you tell me about the night and day relationship here?

Um, I wrote down, "We're the third planet from the sun."

Who is?

Um, the Earth.

Uh-huh.

And the sun and moon are very far apart but sometimes the moon can go in front of the sun.

Uh-huh.

And it go...And it goes really dark if the moon goes in front of it, 'cause it blocks all of the daylight.

OK. Do you know anything more about that?

Well, I forgot what it's called.

Uh-huh. But it is called something, you think.

Yeah.

OK, interesting. OK.

On one side of the Earth it's really dark because it's night-time, and on the other side, because the sun and moon aren't right next to each other, it's light on the other side because, say, because they're both far apart. And...

So what does the far apart have to do with about how it's light on one side and dark on one side?

Um, 'cause they move around in 24 hours.

OK. Right.

Um... Uh...The Earth moves and spins really fast and it doesn't spin straight, it spins a bit wonky. Like, it goes like this.

Oh, OK. Good to know.

And can you tell me anything more about how the Earth spins or where it spins? I notice you've got some arrows here.

Oh, it...It's like on, like an adventure park ride. It goes, like, up and down like this, and it spins really fast.

Just in the one spot?

Ye...Yes, I think so. But it does move things on Earth. So over...so when the Egyptians or something made a pyramid and there was a little thing at the top that pointed to one of the stars...

Mm-hm.

Um, I can't remember what the star was called. But, um, over years they realised it wasn't pointing up to that star anymore, because the Earth moved it. And they wondered why it was pointing up and then they realised that it used to point at the star.

OK.

But now it doesn't anymore.

OK. Alright, good to know.

OK, um, so what do you know...You were telling me about the Earth. What do you know about the moon?

Um...That if you go on the moon during, like, some weird stages, like it, because it goes, like it, the moon goes around the sun, so sometimes it doesn't do that and it goes onto, like, where the sun is. If you went on the moon there it would be kind of dangerous, I guess.

Uh-huh.

Because I saw that somewhere. I went to learn about it with my mum but I can't remember all of the details.

So, you said the moon goes around the su Is that what you meant?

No.

What did you...?

They go around...Um... (STAMMERS) I don't think they go around at the same speed.

Uh-huh.

The sun and moon?

Yeah.

OK. So where do they go around?

The Earth and all the other planets.

OK. Alright, good to know. And can you tell me anything about the shape that you've made there?

Half the moon. But the moon doesn't really go half, it's just the lighting.

Ah. OK. So, can you tell me anything about the shape of the moon and the Earth?

Um, they're all a, like, a ball.

Uh-huh.

And but the reason why everything doesn't just fly off everything is because...is it gravity?

Oh, OK.

'Cause it's spinning so fast but gravity is really strong, so it keeps it on the Earth.

OK.

'Cause if it spun without any gravity, everything would go flying off.

OK.

I know you said something about how one side gets dark on the Earth. Can you tell me a little bit more about that?

Well, it would get colder because the sun is warmer than the moon and that's why, I think that's why it's really cold at night.

Uh-huh.

And that's why there's dew in the morning.

OK, and what about that night-day relationship? You told me that there was 24 hours.

And over 24 hours, they move around. Like, they swap around and then they keep going. And so if you went on one side of the Earth, and you went on a holiday to the other side, it would change the lighting and you would have to change all your clock times.

OK, so it has something to do with time, as well.

Mm-hm.

OK. Um, and you said, "They swap around." What swapped around, did you think?

The sun and the moon.

The sun and the moon. OK. Alright. You've got here, "The sun is a giant ball of gas."

Yeah, it's all this gas brought together and it's really hot.

OK, so it's got heat and gas.

Yes.

OK, and is there anything else that it has that provides us ...

Light.

Light. Well done. Well, I think you've told me a lot about the night and day and what you know about the sun, moon and Earth. Thank you for sharing that with me.