Super Stink, the Science Genius!

Of all the adventures Stink Moody embarks on, his science explorations tend to be the most exciting. He debates which planets should be in the solar system (and wins), visits an aquarium where creatures of the deep sea live, volunteers to study endangered amphibians, and even dissects zombie brains!

Greetings Friends,

Science superhero Stink Moody is back in action to help make science super engaging for educators and students alike. This handy guide is filled with book-specific activities aligned to the Common Core State Standards and provides out-of-this-world fun and learning rolled into one. These Stink-y activities are sure to turn your classroom into an intergalactic zone of learning and discovery.
Freaky-Deaky Frog Life Cycles

In *Stink and the Freaky Frog Freakout*, Stink learns all about the animal kingdom and its many life cycles. Invite your students to make a life-cycle comic in the shape of a circle to demonstrate the circle of life. Pass out paper plates and have each student divide his or her plate into four sections. Instruct the children to draw one stage of a frog’s life cycle in each section: eggs, tadpoles, froglets, and adult frogs.

Moody Mnemonics

To help Stink remember all the planets for his solar system test, his sister Judy teaches him how to make up a mnemonic (a pattern of letters used to remember something). The mnemonic he uses is My Very Excellent Mother Just Served Us Nine Pizzas. But when Stink discovers that “big important science guys” have taken Pluto out of his mnemonic, he starts a campaign to get it back—including crafting a bumper sticker that says HONK IF YOU LOVE PLUTO. Have each student devise his or her own planet mnemonic and create a bumper sticker to be hung in the classroom.

Electronic Extension: Invite students to create and upload music videos of themselves singing or saying their planet mnemonics.

Planetary Trivia

In *Stink: Solar System Superhero*, readers can find a whole solar system’s worth of planet facts. Print out the following activity sheet and have students match each planet with an interesting fact about it.

**Answer key**

**Mercury:** When this planet faces the sun, it can get as hot as 840 degrees.

**Venus:** This is the stinkiest planet.

**Earth:** This planet weighs as much as 194 quintillion elephants.

**Mars:** This planet’s gravity is only a third of that on Earth.

**Jupiter:** This planet rotates faster than any other planet in the solar system.

**Saturn:** This planet has rings made of bits of ice and rock.

**Uranus:** This is the coldest planet, at minus 300 degrees.

**Neptune:** This planet has eleven moons.

**Pluto:** An ex-planet, also known as 134340.
## Stink-y Planet Factoids

Stink is a big fan of all the planets, especially the one that was kicked out of the solar system. Can you match each planet with an interesting fact about it?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Planet</th>
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Climate Crusaders

In *Stink and the Freaky Frog Freakout*, Stink visits a nature preserve and realizes that humans have been responsible for damaging ecosystems and altering wildlife populations. Ask your students to brainstorm about some causes of climate change and how the environment is being affected all over the world. As a group, develop a plan that includes ways your classroom can work together to help save the earth. Have students write their ideas down on blue and green paper and stick them in a giant paper circle to form a Save the Earth art project. Some ideas to consider in discussion:

- Recycling
- Water conservation
- Using reusable water bottles
- Caring for a class plant
- Growing a class vegetable garden
- Making crafts from paper-towel tubes, empty shoe boxes, milk cartons, and so on
- Turning off the lights

**Electronic Extension:** Invite students to produce, record, and upload a Save the Earth commercial.

Jellyfish Jamboree

In *Stink and the Shark Sleepover*, readers are introduced to an ocean’s worth of facts about jellyfish, sharks, and aquariums. Print out the following activity sheet and have students answer the true/false jellyfish questions and supply correct answers using information found in the book.

**COMMON CORE CONNECTIONS**

**Writing:** Research to Build and Present Knowledge: Participate in shared research and writing projects.

**Speaking and Listening:** Comprehension and Collaboration: Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions.

**Speaking and Listening:** Comprehension and Collaboration: Recount or describe key ideas or details from a text read aloud or information presented orally or through other media.
Jumpin’ Jellyfish!

When Stink and his friends spend a night at the aquarium in *Stink and the Shark Sleepover*, Stink has a brush with jellyfish cooties (yuck!) while helping a trainer “light” the moon jellies by dragging his hand through their tank. Use the book to answer the following true/false questions. If the answer is false, find and fill in the true statement.

**TRUE OR FALSE**

___ A group of jellyfish is called a shiver.

___ Stink sees blue, green, and pink jellyfish.

___ Jellyfish don’t have brains, bones, or blood.

___ Jellyfish taste like chicken.

___ A deadly jellyfish that has 5,000 stingers is called the flower hat jellyfish.

___ The Nomura jellyfish can get as big as a washing machine.

___ Jellyfish have gone into space to be studied.

___ Sea turtles eat some types of jellyfish.

___ A sting from a Portuguese man-of-war feels like a pinch on the arm.

___ Stink sees an egg-yolk jellyfish, a popcorn jellyfish, and a hula-skirt jellyfish.

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Pet Palooza

Stink Moody has proved over and over again that he loves animals. He has adopted Astro the guinea pig, taken care of Mouse the cat, and read to Moose the dog. Have your students think about all the responsibilities that come along with having a pet, then write down (a) what pet they would like to have (it can be any animal) and (b) what pet they already have, if any. Ask them to research and write a list of rules for taking care of their pet of choice and draw or bring in a picture of their animals. Give students a chance to share their pet policy with the class. Use their pictures to create a classroom Pet Family Album.

Electronic Extension: Host an online Cutest Pet Contest by inviting students to post pictures of their pets and voting for their favorites.

Mega Mold Race

There is no doubt that Stink has a secret talent for sniffing out some of the smelliest scents the world has to offer. In Stink and the World’s Worst Super-Stinky Sneakers, he even gets a chance to judge a sneaker-smelling contest with a professional smeller! Stink is also the only one in his class who can muster the courage to explore the grossest parts of the Gross-Me-Out exhibit. Take a tip from Stink and do your own stink-a-licious project in the classroom.

First discuss the science of how some types of mold form more quickly than others. Talk about what foods are actually made of mold and discuss ways that people preserve food to keep it from becoming moldy. Now conduct the experiment: place a banana, a piece of cheese, and a slice of bread on individual plates and keep the plates in a dark, designated cabinet. Keep the temperature consistent inside the cabinet and check the objects’ mold rate daily, taking pictures and noting smells (P.U.!). Have the class discuss the transformation as it takes place.

Electronic Extension: Invite students to upload their daily pictures to your class website or blog.
Bonkers for Boogers!

In *Stink and the World's Worst Super-Stinky Sneakers*, Stink has a big goal—to find and investigate the giant nose. Have your class discuss the icky-sticky science of boogers and how they are related to our respiratory system. Ask each student to write a report about the respiratory system, identifying its different parts and explaining why it is important to the human body.

Follow up by having them create “boogers” (green gak) by combining one cup of white glue, one cup of liquid starch, and three drops of green food coloring. Instruct students to mix the food coloring and glue in a bowl with a spoon (and avoid getting it on their hands), then add the starch slowly and stop when the mix feels like putty—or boogers!

**Electronic Extension:** Invite students to post pictures of themselves being slimed by the boogers they just made!

Zcience Brain Game

When Stink signs up for a fund-raiser and reading challenge in *Stink and the Midnight Zombie Walk*, he not only helps his community, he also gets to zombie out with fake guts, gore, and brains. With your class, discuss the brain's role in the human body and talk about the different parts of the brain. Then test your students' memories with a fun brain game. Split the class into two large groups. Tell Group 1 to take a good look around the classroom and remember where different objects are. Send Group 1 out of the room and have Group 2 change the location of various objects. Bring Group 1 back in and ask this group to write down anything that has changed. Reverse the groups and compare how much each group noticed and remembered.

Technology in the Classroom

Make learning more exciting by integrating technology in your classroom! Any of the assignments in this guide can be uploaded to the Internet, posted on a class web page, or turned into a blog post. Devices such as smart phones, camcorders, and tablets make it easy to record just about anything. Make your class more wired by trying out these Stink-inspired tech-tivities.

- Ask your students to produce and film an infomercial about outer space. Have them pretend they are selling a trip around the Milky Way and imagine that their videos will be used to entice people to sign up. Tell them to include facts about the planets, space itself, and what the trip would entail. Upload the videos to your class web page or blog.
- When students visit a local zoo or aquarium, ask them to record the sounds the animals make. Have them upload the MP3s to your class web page or blog and let the other students guess the animal that made each sound.
- Invite your students to take a nature hike through a local park. Ask them to take pictures, videos, and recordings of what they see. Then have them create an online journal documenting their adventure.

COMMON CORE CONNECTIONS

**Writing:** Research to Build and Present Knowledge: Participate in shared research and writing projects.

**Speaking and Listening:** Comprehension and Collaboration: Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions.

**Writing** Text Types and Purposes: Write informative/explanatory texts in which they introduce a topic, use facts and definitions to develop points, and provide a concluding statement or section.

**Speaking and Listening:** Comprehension and Collaboration: Recount or describe key ideas or details from a text read aloud or information presented orally or through other media.