NASA Space Launch: Potential for Disciplinary Literacy

Disciplines communicate in different ways. Teaching language and literacy throughout the curriculum, in a manner that supports thinking and learning in different subjects, is termed disciplinary literacy. Learning in other curriculum areas offers rich potential for the meaningful and critical application of language and literacy skills. Engaging children in inquiry in another subject gives an authentic context for development in oral language, reading and writing

On May 27th at 11:32 (Irish time) NASA and SpaceX will launch the first commercially built and operated American rocket and spacecraft will carry humans to the space station. The SpaceX Crew Dragon spacecraft will launch on a Falcon 9 rocket from NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida. It would be the first launch of astronauts from U.S. soil since the end of the space shuttle program in 2011. NASA has been sending astronauts on the Russian Roscosmos Soyuz Rockets. The 230-foot-tall rocket will take astronauts Bob Behnken and Doug Hurley to the International Space Station in a Crew Dragon capsule. The Crew Dragon is scheduled to dock to the space station at 06:29 a.m. Thursday, May 28 and will stay on station for as many as 110 days.

NASA Live

NASA: Watch the Launches!

The launch, as well as other activities leading up to the launch, will air live on NASA Television and the agency's website.
https://www.nasa.gov/nasalive
https://www.nasa.gov/multimedia/nasatv/#public

Also, in July, The Mars 2020 spacecraft bringing a Perseverance Rover to Mars will launch from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station, Florida.

NASA has some fantastic resources for teachers and parents to consider and follow the upcoming events:

Aa-Zz Activity and Colouring Sheets

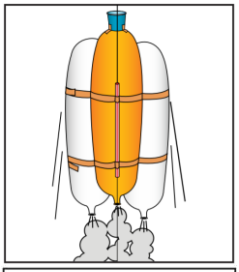
https://www.nasa.gov/sites/default/files/atoms/files/a-z-activity-sheets.pdf

Space Tech FUNPAD Activity Booklet

https://www.nasa.gov/sites/default/files/atoms/files/space_tech_funpad_tagged.pdf

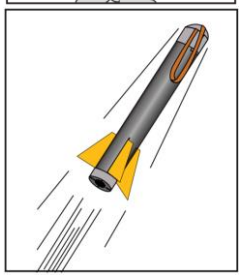
NASA: Make a straw Rocket Challenge

https://www.jpl.nasa.gov/edu/learn/project/make-a-straw-rocket/
https://www.jpl.nasa.gov/edu/teach/activity/straw-rocket/
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mQblbX9YccM
Worksheet: https://www.jpl.nasa.gov/edu/pdfs/strawrocket_worksheet.pdf



NASA: Make a Heavy Lifting Rocket Activity

Students construct balloon-powered rockets to launch the greatest payload possible: https://www.jpl.nasa.gov/edu/teach/activity/rocket-activity-heavy-lifting/
WorkSheets:
https://www.jpl.nasa.gov/edu/pdfs/rocketactivity_heavylifting.pdf



NASA: Launch and Build a Foam Rocket

Students construct rockets activity
https://www.jpl.nasa.gov/edu/teach/activity/foam-rocket/
worksheet: https://www.jpl.nasa.gov/edu/pdfs/foamrocket.pdf

NASA: Activity Ideas

https://www.jpl.nasa.gov/edu/teach/activity/simple-rocket-science/
https://www.jpl.nasa.gov/edu/teach/activity/simple-rocket-science-continued/

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NASA: Teaching and Activity Resources

https://www.jpl.nasa.gov/edu/teach/tag/type/Classroom+Activity
https://www.jpl.nasa.gov/edu/teach/resources/

More information on disciplinary literacy can be found on the NCCA Primary Language Curriculum website:
https://curriculumonline.ie/getmedia/2a6e5f79-6f29-4d68-b850-379510805656/PLC-Document_English.pdf