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Activities

Space Weather

Name: _____ Date: _____

Weather happens in the part of the atmosphere closest to the ground. "Space weather" happens much higher up, triggered by events on the Sun over 90 million miles away. These solar events can have a big effect on our home planet. You'll find out all about it in this Planet Diary activity.

Directions

- Start at Spaceweather.com for a look at today's space weather. The site has up-to-the-minute info on auroras, solar wind, solar flares, sunspots, and geomagnetic storms. Click the links to find out more about each kind of event.
- How does space weather affect our planet? To find out, go to the Exploratorium's Space Weather and You. Use the information to complete the chart in the Workspace.
- Solar storms can create spectacular displays called auroras. The Sun also has a steady solar wind. Powerful events on the Sun such as coronal mass ejections and solar flares can trigger geomagnetic storms in Earth's atmosphere. Browse the links to find out more about these phenomena.

Workspace

Effects On:	Space Weather Effects
Satellites and spacecraft	
Radio communication	
Navigation	
Electric power transmission	
Astronauts and high altitude travelers	
Climate	

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