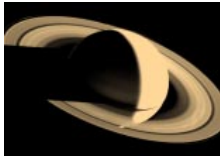


# Pulling It All Together

*Saturn as seen by  
Voyager 1.*



## LESSON TIME

1 hour

## MATERIALS CHECKLIST

*For each student:*

- Copy of “Notes for Final Writing Project Worksheet”
- Saturn Discovery Log

## LESSON NO. 11

- *Language Arts Focus* — *Nonfiction Writing Practice: Descriptive; Compare and Contrast; Summary*
- *Science Focus* — *Synthesis of Information and Reflection*

### OVERVIEW

Students now have a working knowledge of Saturn and Cassini, as well as their Saturn Discovery Logs full of notes and observations. Students will organize notes to prepare to write one of the following types of nonfiction for their final piece: descriptive (poetry), compare and contrast, or summary.

### WHY THIS WORKS

Shepardson and Britsch (1997) state that, “In science, journals and logs are seldom used as a means of communicating and sharing information with others. Instead, the science journal functions as a tool scientists use to create other products, such as oral presentations or journal articles that are then used to communicate findings and other information to other members of the community.” The Saturn Discovery Log serves the purpose that a real journal does for scientists. It is a springboard to a final project.

## Objectives

Students will:

- Consolidate learning that has taken place during the unit.
- Organize and synthesize notes for a final nonfiction writing project.

## Teacher Preparation

Print out and make a copy of student handout 1, “Notes for Final Writing Project Worksheet” (5 pages) for each student.

## What to Do

*Introduce the Activity* — *Suggested time 5 minutes*

1. Tell the students that they have almost finished the unit on Saturn, Cassini, and nonfiction. Tell them that they are going to prepare to write a final piece about what they learned to share with others.
2. Give each student a copy of the “Notes for Final Writing Project Worksheet.”
3. Tell the students that they are going to collect ideas for their final writing piece.



*Brainstorm — Suggested time 25 minutes*

1. Read the prompt on each page of the “Notes for Final Writing Project Worksheet.”
2. Allow the students 5 minutes to write their ideas on the page related to the prompt.

*Organize Information from Saturn Discovery Logs — Suggested time 25 minutes*

1. Have students go through all the work in their individual Saturn Discovery Logs, and to use the Saturn Discovery Log to add notes to each page of the worksheet.
2. Tell the students that they will have the opportunity to share their notes with a partner and the class.

*Share with a Partner — Suggested time 5 minutes*

1. Have the children choose one or two things from their worksheet to share with a partner.
2. Have the partners take turns sharing one thing they liked about their partners’ work.
3. Make sure students to put their names and the date on their work, and put it the Saturn Discovery Log, so they have their notes to write their final piece.

**Assessment**

As you review the students’ work, ask yourself the following question:

- Was the student able to organize notes for each prompt?

If not, have a conversation with the student to find out more about why this was difficult for him or her, and try to think of a strategy for helping the student improve in this area.

**Standards**

*National Council of Teachers of English and International Reading Association Standards for the English Language Arts*

All students must have opportunities to:

- Adjust their use of spoken, written, and visual language (e.g., conventions, style, vocabulary) to communicate effectively with a variety of audiences and for different purposes.
- Employ a wide range of strategies as they write and use different writing process elements appropriately to communicate with different audiences for a variety of purposes.
- Use spoken, written, and visual language to accomplish their own purposes (e.g., for learning, enjoyment, persuasion, and the exchange of information).



*National Science Education Standards*

As a result of their activities in grades K–4, all students should develop an understanding:

- Of position and motion of objects (Physical Science).
- Of objects in the sky (Earth and Space Science).
- About science and technology (Science and Technology).
- Of science as a human endeavor (History and Nature of Science).











