

Cosmic Nesting Box

by Waseca Learning Environment

suggestions for presentation:

Close your eyes and imagine yourself in deep dark space. This space is blacker than the blackest night and it goes on in all directions forever and ever. Imagine that you are moving through this space and ahead you see light. As you get closer, you see that the light is coming from a cluster of millions of stars. The stars are clustered together in the shape of a spiral. This is the Milky Way Galaxy. Open your eyes now.

There is one particular star in this galaxy and if you move closer to it, you will see that it is our sun with planets in orbit around it. (Lift the largest box to reveal the box within. Place the largest box to the side)

One of those planets is just the right distance away so that it does not get too hot or too cold to support life. That planet is our earth. (Lift the solar system box to reveal the box within. Place the solar system box on top of the galaxy box.)

The earth has water and large areas of land called continents. (Lift the earth box to reveal the box within. Place the earth box on top of the solar system box.)

One of those continents is North America. (Lift the North America box to reveal the box within. Place the North America box on top of the earth box.)

Within North America is a country called the United States of America (Lift that country to reveal the box within. Place the US box on top of the North America box.)

One of the states within this country is called _____ . (Lift the state to reveal the box within. Place the state box on top of the US box.)

Inside of this state is a city/town called _____ . (Lift the city box to reveal the box within. Place the city box on top of the state box.)

Within _____ is the street where our school is located. (Lift the school box to reveal the box within. Place the school box on top of the city box.)

Inside of the building is you, a child. (Lift the child box to reveal the box within. Place the child box on top of the school box.)

Inside of you are Atoms which are the building blocks of all things on our planet. It contains energy or love, the stuff that holds all of the universe together. (Lift that box to reveal the box within. Place the energy/Atom box on top of the child box.)

As a follow up exercise, you may choose to place the cosmic nesting boxes on the shelf. The child may order them horizontally on the floor and place the appropriate label beside each box. The child may build the tower vertically and place the label on the ledge of each box.

The enclosed master may be copied front and back, cut in half widthwise and stapled down the center to create books for the child to complete, by filling in the blanks with the words from the labels to show his/ her cosmic address.