Unity College

Unity Boost 🚀 🤖

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Live look at ChatGPT writing this newsletter for me...

Hello fellow humans,

Welcome to the first, fortnightly* edition of Unity Boost.

I'm busy - you're busy. This job is insane. But what if we could make it just a little easier, by leveraging some AI and productivity tools?

Unity Boost will be your go-to guide for working smarter, not harder. Each edition will be packed with:

AI Tips & Tools: Simple ways to integrate AI into your work, making everyday tasks faster and easier.

Productivity Hacks: Quick wins and proven strategies to save time and stay organized.

Shoutouts & Highlights: Celebrating successes across the team and sharing innovative ideas.

Resource Spotlights: Must-try apps, tools, and articles to keep you ahead of the game.

The goal? To help us navigate the madness, cut through the chaos, and make room for what really matters – our students and our sanity.

This newsletter is a work in progress, so if you have ideas or topics you'd like to see, let me know. Together, we can make Unity Boost a resource you actually look forward to each week.

Scroll down to take a look at the first of our resource spotlights...

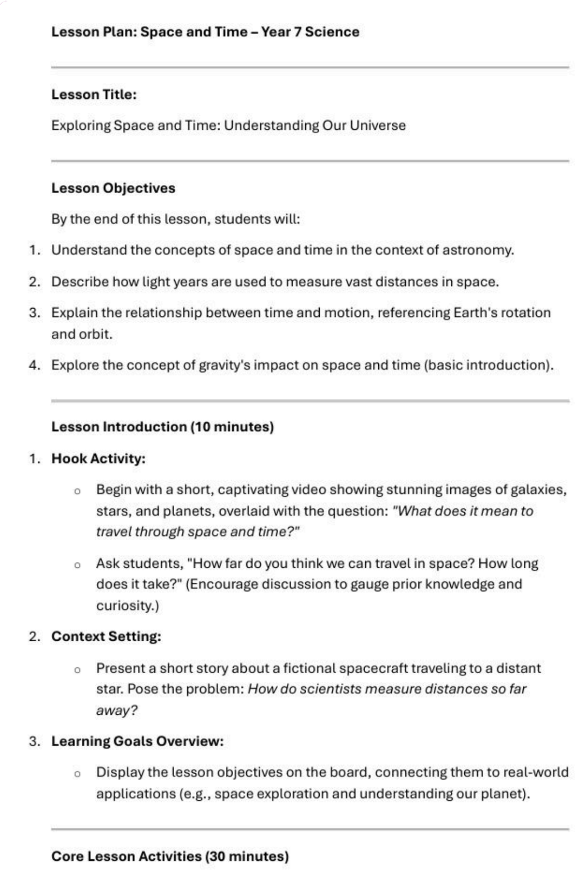
**if i'm not too busy*

Scary 😦 Words: *Prompt Engineering*

I know it sounds complicated, but this term refers simply to the *quality* of the prompt you input to tools like ChatGPT or Copilot. Just like we are fond of telling our students: you get out what you put into AI tools!

The two examples of lesson plans below have been created with prompts of differing detail: one created with a simple prompt and one with a more detailed prompt.

Click on the images to take a closer look; see if you can work out which was generated using the more detailed prompt!



Lesson Plan: Space and Time – Year 7 Science

Lesson Title:
Exploring Space and Time: Understanding Our Universe

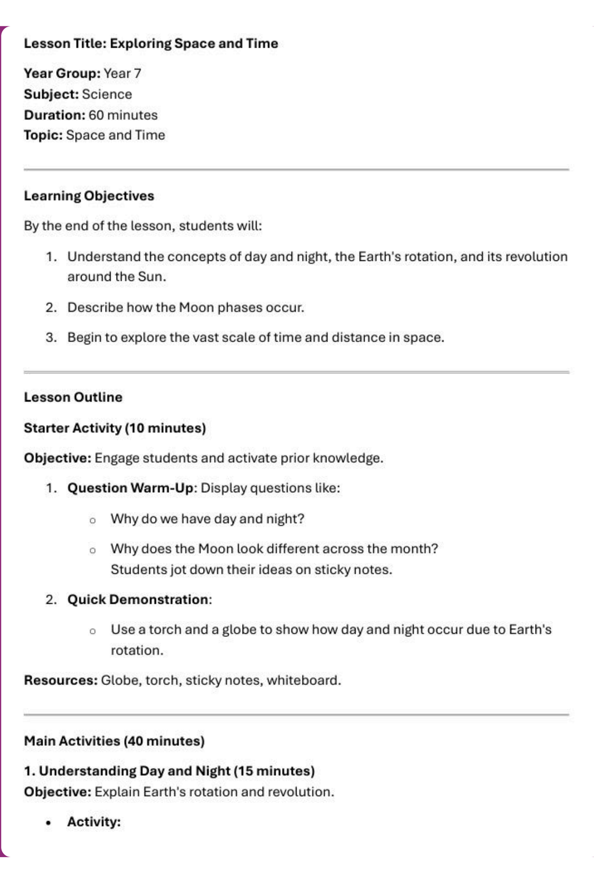
Lesson Objectives
By the end of this lesson, students will:
1. Understand the concepts of space and time in the context of astronomy.
2. Describe how light years are used to measure vast distances in space.
3. Explain the relationship between time and motion, referencing Earth's rotation and orbit.
4. Explore the concept of gravity's impact on space and time (basic introduction).

Lesson Introduction (10 minutes)
1. **Hook Activity:**
   - Begin with a short, captivating video showing stunning images of galaxies, stars, and planets, overlaid with the question: *"What does it mean to travel through space and time?"*
   - Ask students, "How far do you think we can travel in space? How long does it take?" (Encourage discussion to gauge prior knowledge and curiosity.)
2. **Context Setting:**
   - Present a short story about a fictional spacecraft traveling to a distant star. Pose the problem: *How do scientists measure distances so far away?*
3. **Learning Goals Overview:**
   - Display the lesson objectives on the board, connecting them to real-world applications (e.g., space exploration and understanding our planet).

Core Lesson Activities (30 minutes)

Lesson Plan A

Lesson Plan B



Lesson Title: Exploring Space and Time
Year Group: Year 7
Subject: Science
Duration: 60 minutes
Topic: Space and Time

Learning Objectives
By the end of the lesson, students will:
1. Understand the concepts of day and night, the Earth's rotation, and its revolution around the Sun.
2. Describe how the Moon phases occur.
3. Begin to explore the vast scale of time and distance in space.

Lesson Outline
Starter Activity (10 minutes)
Objective: Engage students and activate prior knowledge.
1. **Question Warm-Up:** Display questions like:
   - Why do we have day and night?
   - Why does the Moon look different across the month?
   Students jot down their ideas on sticky notes.
2. **Quick Demonstration:**
   - Use a torch and a globe to show how day and night occur due to Earth's rotation.

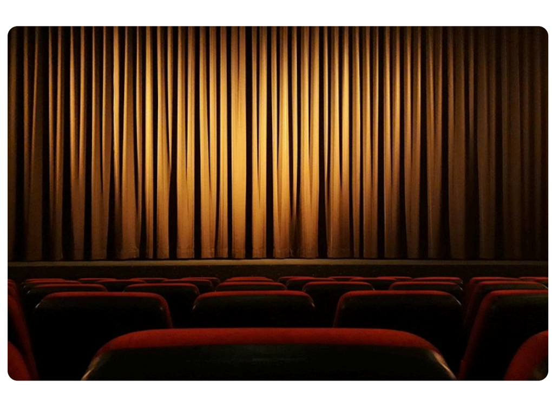
Resources: Globe, torch, sticky notes, whiteboard.

Main Activities (40 minutes)
1. Understanding Day and Night (15 minutes)
Objective: Explain Earth's rotation and revolution.
- **Activity:**

Reveal the Answer!

The good news is that AI can generate good prompts for itself, for you! It's prompt-inception! Watch [this short guide](#) on how to create effective prompts using a free 3rd party tool.

Unity News & Shout Outs 😍



Mrs May-Jones[Drama]

Mrs May-Jones has been using an AI tool called NewArc.AI to help students create professional quality set and costume designs. Click the link to see how it works!

Learn more →

Idris Whitlock [Admin]

Before he left, Idris attended an online AI-focused webinar organized by noted Edu Tech guru Mr P ICT. Productivity gains from AI can be attained by everyone in school, not just teaching staff!

Prompts to try... 💬

Give me starter activity ideas for a lesson on... ⇒

Top Tip: *Ask the AI to incorporate resources you already have, like "using a whiteboard," "small group discussions," or "items from the classroom." This keeps the ideas practical for your setting.*

Create a lesson plan for a *[subject and topic]* aimed at *[age group]...* ⇒

Top tip: Be specific about the time allocation or teaching style you prefer. For example, include "30-minute lesson" or "hands-on activities" to get tailored suggestions .

Generate a model answer for the following question: ... ⇒

Top Tip: Request a specific format if needed, such as bullet points for younger students or full paragraphs for exam practice. This ensures the output matches your teaching goals.

Generate a range of questions to stretch and support students in a lesson on [topic] ⇒

Top Tip: Be specific about the type of thinking you want to encourage—like "stretching analysis," "encouraging comparison," or "prompting justification." This helps the AI generate questions that deepen learning rather than just check recall.

Useful reading **links**

📘 Schools Week: ***How to Get the Best – and Avoid the Worst – of AI***
Practical insights on integrating AI into education effectively, focusing on maximizing its benefits while steering clear of common pitfalls. A must-read for educators exploring AI in their classrooms.

Learn more →

📘 Diginomica: ***AI in Education Can Help Us Redefine What We Need to Learn, Says Wolfram***
Stephen Wolfram explores how AI is reshaping the educational landscape, redefining priorities, and preparing students for a tech-driven future. A thought-provoking read for forward-thinking educators.

Learn more →

📘 Stanford HAI: ***AI Will Transform Teaching and Learning. Let's Get it Right.***
Stanford researchers, students, and industry leaders discuss how AI can revolutionize education while emphasizing the importance of ethical and equitable integration. A must-read for educators shaping the future of learning.
Learn more →

📘 Parents.com: ***88% of Parents Say AI Is Crucial but Worry Schools Aren't Teaching It***
A new survey reveals that most parents believe AI knowledge is essential for their children's future but are concerned about the lack of AI-focused education in schools. Discover what this means for the next generation.

Learn more →

Answer: *Lesson Plan A* was generated from the more detailed prompt!

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