



**You Light Up My Life**  
**Grade Four - Third Unit of Inquiry**

**November 25, 2010**

**Organizing Theme:** How We Express Ourselves

**Description:** An inquiry into the ways in which we discover and express ideas, feelings, nature, culture, beliefs and values; the ways in which we reflect on, extend and enjoy our creativity; our appreciation of the aesthetic.



**Subject Focus:** This unit is linked to the Ontario Curriculum Science unit on Light & Sound as well as the Ontario Curriculum Language unit on Media Literacy.

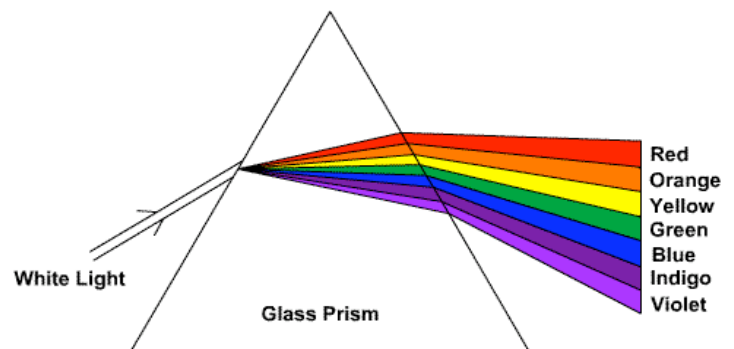
**Central Idea:** The manipulation of sound and light can impact the way communication occurs.

**Inquiry Into:**

- Characteristics and properties of sound and light
- How sound and light are used in communication
- How and why the media manipulates messages
- Critical evaluation of advertisements and media messages

**Suggestions for Activities at Home:**

- While watching television discuss with your daughter the messages commercials are conveying and discuss how and why they are sending those messages.
- Explore with your daughter samples of advertising in print, television and radio. Critically interpret the advertisement's message, music, images, and target audience.



- Encourage your daughter to investigate sources of light and distinguish between objects that emit their own light and those that reflect light from other sources.
- While listening to music or sounds in nature, discuss with your daughter how sound travels and how sound can be absorbed, reflected or modified.
- Help your daughter look for articles in magazines, newspapers or online relating to sound, light or media. Your daughter can bring the articles to present to the class on Monday for our 'Contemporary Connections' exercise.

**Field Trips:**

Attached you will find a letter outlining our upcoming trip to the Science & Technology Museum on January 12<sup>th</sup>. Please read and return the form before Friday, December 10<sup>th</sup>. If you are available to volunteer on this trip, please email me at your earliest convenience.

**Special Guests:**

On Wednesday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, Grade Four will enjoy a special Sound Workshop; *Sound Is Music to My Ears*, orchestrated by the *Scientist in the School Program*.

**Sound Workshop Description:**

Through a series of guided experiments, students will discover how sounds are created through vibrations, how sound travels through different materials, and the factors affecting pitch (frequency) and volume (intensity). Demonstrations with musical instruments will help reinforce these concepts. The students will also learn how the human ear detects sounds.

Thank you for your continued support and excitement in our Grade Four program. If you have any questions or comments, please email me at your earliest convenience.

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