Create A Lunar Outpost

Artist Pat Rawlings illustrates space exploration, from futuristic space travel to human investigation of Mars to lunar outposts. His images integrate imagination with scientifically and technically accurate information.

Invite your students to use materials at hand to create, draw, or animate a lunar outpost of the future. Have them consider the questions that follow as they construct their Moon habitats.

What buildings are needed for the astronauts? How do the astronauts arrive at the outpost? How does the habitat get power? How do they move across the lunar surface? What science occurs at the outpost?

How are the astronauts protected from radiation and temperature extremes? Where is equipment maintained and stored? How is air generated for the astronauts to breathe? Where do they get their food?

Where do the astronauts get medical treatment? How do they communicate with each other and Earth? What do the astronauts do for exercise, relaxation, and fun? What kind of jobs will people need to do at the outpost?

 Invite your students to submit their work to the Lunar and Planetary Institute at http://www.lpi.usra.edu/education/moon_poster.shtml