



GRACE Education Curriculum Satellites	
Teachers	Grades 3-5
Science & Lang Arts	

## Satellite Write

**Background Information:** An acrostic poem is a poem or series of lines in which certain letters, usually the first, form a name or a motto. An acrostic poem is a way to show what you know about a subject or character you are reading. You might not think of it as poetry because it doesn't rhyme, but poetry doesn't always have to rhyme. An acrostic poem is one where you choose a word or name (like the name of a character in a book or the name of an object, like the satellite GRACE) and use each letter in the name as the beginning of a word or line that tells something about that person, character, or thing.

- Objectives:** At the end of the lesson, students will be able to:
- Define an acrostic poem.
  - Write an acrostic poem about GRACE/satellites.

**Standards:** Science: unifying concepts and processes  
Language Arts: use of different writing process elements to communicate with different audiences for a variety of purposes.

**Vocabulary:** acrostic poem                      satellite                      GRACE

**Materials:** Facts about GRACE and Satellites  
Cut-outs of GRACE satellites  
Sample acrostic poem

---

**Directions to the Teacher:**

Go over facts about GRACE and satellites by using suggested references located on the GRACE web site: <http://www.csr.utexas.edu/grace> Define an acrostic poem and read samples. Students will develop a rough draft of an acrostic poem. This can be an individual or group project. After you have approved their acrostic poem, have students write it on the GRACE cut-out (see attached). Display students' poems.

Here's an example of an acrostic poem written about the character Wilbur in the book Charlotte's Web:

**W**hen he found himself

**I**n Zuckerman's barn,

**L**ying on a

**B**ig pile of manure, he felt

**U**tterly lonely. He

**R**olled over and cried.

---

---

Here are some sample GRACE acrostic poems:

<b>Sample I:</b>	<b>Sample II:</b>
<b>G</b> ravity finder <b>R</b> eading data <b>A</b> lways orbiting <b>C</b> hecking oceans, <b>E</b> veryday!	<b>G</b> race in Space <b>R</b> evolving together <b>A</b> nalyzing data <b>C</b> ooperative effort, <b>E</b> xploring the gravity field.

**Extensions:**

Students will visit other classrooms at the school to explain the GRACE mission.

Place GRACE acrostic poems in local libraries.

Research another satellite. Write an acrostic poem about that satellite. Give an oral report to the class on that satellite.

**References/Resources:**

<http://liftoff.msfc.nasa.gov/>

<http://imagine.gsfc.nasa.gov/>

[http://eosps0.gsfc.nasa.gov/eos\\_homepage/missions.html](http://eosps0.gsfc.nasa.gov/eos_homepage/missions.html)

---

---

**GRACE  
SATELLITE  
CUT - OUT**

