ABSTRACT

PRODIGIOUS! A TEACHING SUPPLEMENT FOR OCTOBER SKY

by

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The No Child Left Behind (NCLB) Act of 2001 has caused the most significant change in science education since the launch of the Russian satellite Sputnic in 1957. Unfortunately the change is not a favorable one. The need to show adequate yearly progress on standardized test scores in the areas of Language Arts and Mathematics has pushed science education into a distant third or fourth place. This is evident state wide by the appropriation of the long sacred Eisenhower funds and the increased minutes of each school day devoted to Language Arts and Mathematics teaching. In our district, it became evident with the requirement that all subject matter teachers must address specific items that are intended to raise scores in the target areas. The result of these changes is to diminish the time and resources available to teach our children science. In many K-6 classrooms science had been unofficially eliminated. This project has been developed from necessity due to the current trends in science education
brought about by the NCLB Act. Prodigious! A Teaching Supplement of October Sky is a creative integration of Language Arts, Mathematics and Science.