AURORA IN YOUR BACKYARD

In this homework, you’re going to use the website www.spaceweather.com to visualize one of nature’s greatest sights, the Aurora Borealis, right in your own back yard. All you need is a piece of computer or drawing paper, some colored pencils or markers, and access to the Internet.

1. Go to the Spaceweather.com site and find the Aurora Gallery in the lower right-hand corner. Open it up and spend a few minutes wandering around, just looking at images of the Aurora. Notice the colors, shapes and patterns. Eventually select your favorite and record its information below.

Location: ____________________      Date:  _____________________
Photographer: ______________________________________

2. On your piece of drawing paper, neatly sketch the view from your house, facing NORTH (the direction of the Northern Lights!). If you aren’t sure which way north is, think about where the sun rises and sets at your house, and then remember the acronym, “Never Eat Soggy Waffles”.

Include everything you would see, including other buildings, trees, swing set, etc. that would be in your view. Leave some room at the top to draw in your aurora.

3. Using your colors, draw in the Aurora Borealis in the background, as it would be seen in your yard. Be sure to keep the same colors, shapes and patterns that the original photo had.

4. Now kick back and enjoy the show!