

Interstellar Cinderella

A RIF GUIDE FOR PARENTS AND FAMILIES

Themes: Fairy Tales, Space, Science Fiction

Book Brief: This fun twist on a classic fairy tale is out of this world! The author uses a science fiction approach to spin the tale of a futuristic Cinderella who dreams of being a mechanic, not a princess.

Author: Deborah Underwood

Illustrator: Meg Hunt



TIME TO READ!



Before reading, make predictions: Where and when do you think this Cinderella story takes place? What types of things do you think Interstellar Cinderella likes to do? Explain.

While reading, compare and contrast: How is the story of Interstellar Cinderella alike or different from other versions of the fairy tale? Does the author use

the same characters? How are the settings different? How do the events of this story compare with other versions?

After reading, ask questions:

- ◆ Do you think the socket wrench had special powers?
- ◆ Why do you think the stepsisters felt threatened by Cinderella in this story?
- ◆ Did you like this version of Cinderella more or less than other versions? Why?

RELATED ACTIVITIES

SPACESHIP SKEWER

Ingredients: watermelon, bananas, red and green grapes, small wooden skewers

Place 3 grapes onto the skewer, alternating colors. Peel and cut 1 banana in half for the ship's body. Place the banana half on the skewer on top of the grapes. Cut the watermelon into a triangle and place on top of skewer as the ship's tip. (You can use a cheese wedge instead if watermelon is out of season.) Take a bite—and blast off! As you enjoy, be careful not to poke yourself with the pointed end of the skewer.

ONCE UPON A TIME...

Create your own version of the Cinderella story. Will your Cinderella be a girl or a boy? What type of character will your Cinderella be? Where will the story take place? Who will befriend Cinderella and help her

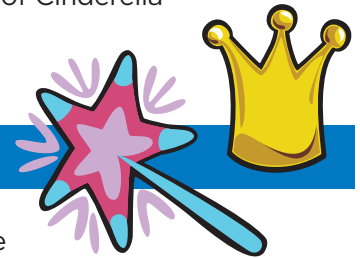
or him? Will she or he have evil stepsisters, or will they be nice? What type of challenge will your Cinderella face? What will Cinderella achieve at the end of your story? Make a book or draw a comic strip to share your Cinderella tale.

FIXER UPPER

Do you have an old appliance or toy that's broken and ready for the trash? With an adult, grab some tools and see if you can fix it. Take it apart and examine the insides. What do you notice? What challenges do mechanics face? What skills must a mechanic have?

MR. ROBOTO

Watch this video to learn about real life robots in space: www.youtube.com/watch?v=OeDWZ9jKRQo.



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

OTHER CINDERELLA STORIES

Cendrillon: A Caribbean Cinderella, Robert D. San Souci (2002),
The Golden Sandal: A Middle Eastern Cinderella Story, Rebecca Hickox (1999),
Yeh-Shen: A Cinderella Story from China, Ai-Ling Louie (1996).



Reading Is Fundamental