

The Moon Over Star

A RIF GUIDE FOR PARENTS AND FAMILIES



Themes: Exploration, Space, Careers, Inspiration

Grade Level: K to 3rd grade

Book Brief: A young girl watches the 1969 moon landing with her family and is inspired to become an astronaut herself.

Author:

Dianna Hutts Aston

Illustrator:

Jerry Pinkney



TIME TO READ!

Before reading, build

background: What does your child know about the moon and the moon landing? Does he or she know we've sent

people into outer space? Where is Star?

While reading, point out number words: This book uses a lot of numbers, like 240,000 and 600 million. Show your child how different numbers look in written form.

After reading, ask questions:

- ◆ Why did so many people care about the moon landing?
- ◆ Why did the moon landing make Mae want to be an astronaut?
- ◆ How do you think the world was different back then?
- ◆ Would you ever want to go into outer space? Why or why not?

RELATED ACTIVITIES

ALL DRIED UP

Astronauts used to have to eat dehydrated food. Help your child make an “astronaut fruit salad” using only your favorite dried fruits, like raisins, dried apple slices or dried mango.

OUT AND ABOUT

Take your child outside to look at the moon at different times of the month—the full moon, the new moon, a crescent moon. If the sky is clear enough, point out some different constellations.

You can find star charts online at:
<http://stardate.org/nightsky/constellations>



MOON MACHE

Make your own paper-mache moon! (This activity may take several days.)

Materials: 1 balloon (blown up), “paste” (mix 1 part flour, 2 parts water), newspaper strips, paint

1. Cover the balloon in strips of newspaper dipped in paste. Let dry.
2. Repeat as needed until you have covered the balloon to make a solid globe.
3. Paint white/grey. Use darker colors to make craters.

OUT OF THIS WORLD!

What do you know about outer space? Explore our solar system online at: <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/space/tour-solar-system.html>!



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

OTHER BOOKS BY THIS AUTHOR

A Seed Is Sleepy (2007), *An Egg Is Quiet* (2006), *Dream Something Big* (2011), *Mama Outside, Mama Inside* (2006), *An Orange in January* (2007).



PROUDLY SPONSORED BY ★macy's
©2011 Reading Is Fundamental, Inc.

Reading Is
Fundamental