

6 by 6 Books to Go

Johnson County Library

Kit theme: **SPACE**

- Book titles included:
 1. **I Want to Be an Astronaut** by Byron Barton
 2. **The Planets** by Gail Gibbons
 3. **Postcards From Pluto** by Loreen Leedy
 4. **Astro Bunnies** by Christine Loomis
 5. **Astronaut Handbook** by Meghan McCarthy
- DVD: **Moo Cow Kaboom!**
- CD and Book: **Gobble, Quack, Moon**

Additional titles available at the Johnson County Library:

Dmitri the Astronaut by Jon Agee
Mooncake by Frank Asch
Floating Home by David Getz
Stargazers by Gail Gibbons
Kitten's First Full Moon by Kevin Henkes
Moondogs by Daniel Kirk
Green Wilma, Frog In Space by Tedd Arnold
Sheep Blast Off by Nancy Shaw
Moon Plane by Peter McCarty
The Moon by Robert Louis Stevenson
The Planets by Melvin Berger
What's So Special About Planet Earth by Robert E. Wells
Comets, Stars, the Moon, and Mars by Douglas Florian



See the back for activities to help children with these *6 by 6 Ready to Read* early literacy areas:

Have Fun With Books
Notice Print
Talk, Talk, Talk

Tell Stories
Look for Letters
Take Time to Rhyme

Activity Ideas – Space

Your Own Planet. Look into the night sky and make up names for new planets. Try to make the names rhyme with the names of family members. Then, if you ask your child about life on his/her new planet, you touch on three of our pre-reading skills: Take Time To Rhyme, Talk Talk Talk, and Tell Stories.

Sink or Float? Gather materials that can be used in a sink-or-float activity: rocks, corks, pinecones, pencils, plastic bottles, etc. Fill the sink or a large container with water. Before dropping the items in the water, ask children whether the object will sink or float. This activity introduces the concepts of gravity and weight as well as increases vocabulary.

Constellations. Help children poke or paper-punch holes in black construction paper. Take the paper and a flashlight into a dark room. Hold the paper up to the ceiling, shine the flashlight onto the paper and see the stars you've created. In the past, people created stories about 'constellations' that look like animals or heroic people. Help your children make-up and narrate a story about the star patterns you've created.

Like A Diamond. There are many versions of "*Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star.*" One of the most popular is listed below. As you sing, use the traditional hand movements or make up your own. Singing songs is one of the best (and most fun!) ways to increase your child's ability to hear the individual sounds that make up words.

Countdown

Inside a rocket ship,
Just enough room.
Here comes the countdown
10...9...8...7...6...5...4...3...2...1
And Zoo-o-o-o-o-om!
(source unknown)

Bend and Stretch

Bend and stretch, reach for the stars
Bend and stretch and reach for the sky
Stand on tip-e-toe, oh! so high!
(from *I'm a Little Teapot!* by Jane Cobb)

Twinkle Twinkle Little Star

Twinkle, twinkle, little star,
How I wonder what you are.
Up above the world so high,
Like a diamond in the sky.

When the blazing sun is gone,
When he nothing shines upon,
Then you show your little light,
Twinkle, twinkle, all the night.

Then the traveler in the dark,
Thanks you for your tiny spark,
He could not see which way to go,
If you did not twinkle so.

Twinkle, twinkle, little star,
How I wonder what you are.

You'll find a printable copy of this activity sheet by searching for this kit in our Library's web catalog.

