

**WHO** goes to outer space? Astronauts.

**WHAT** do they eat in space? Ready-to-eat meals.

**WHERE** do the astronauts sleep? In zero gravity, so they float around and have trouble staying in their beds.

**WHEN** do they put on their space suits? Before they go out to walk in space.

**WHY** do astronauts go to outer space? They are scientists who are learning more about planets and space.

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## **I Want to be an Astronaut – Monday**

### **First Read-aloud**

#### **1) Before reading - introduce characters and the problem.**

- (a) Characters –
  - (i) A boy who wants to be an astronaut
  - (ii) Astronauts who visit outer space
  
- (b) Problem –
  - (i) Astronauts have to learn to sleep and walk around without gravity in space
  - (ii) The Astronauts need to fix a satellite and build a factory in space

#### **2) While reading - expand vocabulary: introduce 8-10 words to highlight and define (show pictures & act out).**

- (a) Astronaut – a person whose job it is to visit outer space
- (b) Crew – all of the people who work on the space shuttle
- (c) Space shuttle – a vehicle that travels through space and carries astronauts on it
- (d) Outer Space – the area in the sky, far, far away, where the planets and stars are, and where astronauts fly to in their space shuttles
- (e) Space Suit – a suit worn by astronauts that lets them breathe and keeps them warm in outer space
- (f) Earth – Earth is the planet we live on

#### **Advanced vocabulary:**

- (g) Zero Gravity – feeling like your body has no weight; when you're in outer space, there is no gravity, which is what keeps your body on the ground, so without gravity you float around in the air
- (h) Satellite – a spacecraft that is sent in to outer space to get information that it can bring back to Earth

#### **3) Comment on main character's thoughts and feelings.**

- (a) *How do you think the boy in the story feels when he thinks about becoming an astronaut?*
- (b) *How long does the boy want to be in space? For a while.*
- (c) *Why do you think he wants to be an astronaut?*

#### **4) After reading - invite explanations, wonder aloud, and ask follow-up questions.**

- (a) *Do you think a space shuttle is big or small?*
- (b) *What do you think a space suit would feel like to wear? Would it be heavy? Hot?*
- (c) *Do you think it is hot or cold in space?*
- (d) *How would you feel if you got to walk around in space?*
- (e) *When you're in space, there is no gravity, so you float around and don't stay on the ground. Do you think that would be fun?*

## **I Want to be an Astronaut – Tuesday and Wednesday**

### **Second and Third Read-alouds**

#### **1) Before reading - introduce characters and the problem.**

- (a) Characters –
  - (i) A boy who wants to be an astronaut
  - (ii) Astronauts who visit outer space
- (b) Problem –
  - (i) Astronauts have to learn to sleep and walk around without gravity in space
  - (ii) The Astronauts need to fix a satellite and build a factory in space

#### **2) While reading - expand vocabulary: introduce 8-10 words to highlight and define (show pictures & act out).**

- (a) Astronaut – a person whose job it is to visit outer space
- (b) Crew – all of the people who work on the space shuttle
- (c) Space shuttle – a vehicle that travels through space and carries astronauts on it
- (d) Outer Space – the area in the sky, far, far away, where the planets and stars are, and where astronauts fly to in their space shuttles
- (e) Space Suit – a suit worn by astronauts that lets them breathe and keeps them warm in outer space
- (f) Earth – Earth is the planet we live on

#### **Advanced vocabulary:**

- (g) Zero Gravity – feeling like your body has no weight; when you're in outer space, there is no gravity, which is what keeps your body on the ground, so without gravity you float around in the air
- (h) Satellite – a spacecraft that is sent in to outer space to get information that it can bring back to Earth

#### **3) Comment on main character's thoughts and feelings.**

- (a) *How do you think the boy in the story feels when he thinks about becoming an astronaut?*
- (b) *How long does the boy want to be in space? For a while.*
- (c) *Why do you think he wants to be an astronaut?*

#### **4) After reading - invite explanations, wonder aloud, and ask follow-up questions.**

- (a) *Do you think a space shuttle is big or small?*
- (b) *What do you think a space suit would feel like to wear? Would it be heavy? Hot?*
- (c) *Do you think it is hot or cold in space?*
- (d) *How would you feel if you got to walk around in space?*
- (e) *When you're in space, there is no gravity, so you float around and don't stay on the ground. Do you think that would be fun?*

## I Want to be an Astronaut – Thursday and Friday

### Fourth and Fifth Read-alouds

- 1) **Before reading - encourage children to recall characters, problem and solution.**
  - (a) Characters –
    - (i) *What did the boy in this story want to be?* An astronaut.
  - (b) Problem –
    - (i) *How do astronauts breathe in space?* They wear a space suit.
    - (ii) *Why do the astronauts float around in the air when they are trying to sleep?* There is no gravity in space, so they don't stay on the ground (or in their beds).
- 2) **While reading - expand vocabulary: introduce 8-10 words to highlight and define (show pictures & act out).**
  - (a) Astronaut – a person whose job it is to visit outer space
  - (b) Crew – all of the people who work on the space shuttle
  - (c) Space shuttle – a vehicle that travels through space and carries astronauts on it
  - (d) Outer Space – the area in the sky, far, far away, where the planets and stars are, and where astronauts fly to in their space shuttles
  - (e) Space Suit – a suit worn by astronauts that lets them breathe and keeps them warm in outer space
  - (f) Earth – Earth is the planet we live on

### Advanced vocabulary:

- (g) Zero Gravity – feeling like your body has no weight; when you're in outer space, there is no gravity, which is what keeps your body on the ground, so without gravity you float around in the air
  - (h) Satellite – a spacecraft that is sent in to outer space to get information that it can bring back to Earth
- 3) **Comment on main character's thoughts and feelings.**
    - (a) *How do you think the boy in the story feels when he thinks about becoming an astronaut?*
    - (b) *How long does the boy want to be in space?* For a while.
    - (c) *Why do you think he wants to be an astronaut?*
  - 4) **Guide children to retell the story. Read pages between retellings. Ask questions that help children recall events of the story and explain what characters are thinking and feeling.**
    - (a) *Who is this?* A little boy who wants to be an astronaut and go to outer space.
    - (b) *What is this?* The shuttle. *Let's count down before it takes off...three, two, one, Blast Off!*
    - (c) *Now the shuttle is in space! Why is this person walking on the ceiling?* Because there is no gravity in outer space.
    - (d) *Why are these people sleeping upside down (or not touching the bed while they sleep)?*  
Because there is no gravity in space!
    - (e) *What do the astronauts do before they walk around in space?* They put on their space suits.
    - (f) *What are the astronauts doing here?* They're building a factory.
    - (g) *Does this boy want to stay in space for a little time or a lot of time?* I think he wants to stay there for a long time.
    - (h) *Do you think you would you like to be an astronaut with this boy?*

- 5) **After reading - invite explanations, wonder aloud, and ask follow-up questions.**
  - (a) *Do you think a space shuttle is big or small?*

- (b) What do you think a space suit would feel like to wear? Would it be heavy? Hot?*
- (c) Do you think it is hot or cold in space?*
- (d) How would you feel if you got to walk around in space?*
- (e) When you're in space, there is no gravity, so you float around and don't stay on the ground. Do you think that would be fun?*