

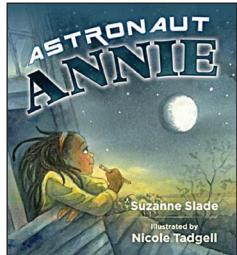


Favorite Astronomy and Space Books

selected by NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Employees



PreK – Grade 2



Astronaut Annie

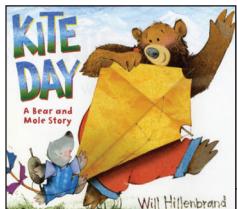
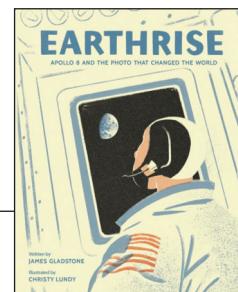
Suzanne Slade
Picture Book 2018

Annie wants to soar high through the air, explore faraway places, be brave and bold so that the whole world will hear her exciting stories. The love and creativity will bring you tears of joy, especially if you are a female.

Earthrise: Apollo 8 and the Photo That Changed the World

James Gladstone
Non Fiction 2018

Tells the story of the Apollo 8 Earthrise photo, from the point of view of both the astronauts and people on Earth. Age-appropriate text with an endnote for grown-ups. Beautifully illustrated.



Kite Day: A Bear and Mole Story

Will Hillenbrand
Picture Book 2013

Two friends work together to create a kite on a windy day by studying, collecting, measuring, and building their own.



Mae Among the Stars

Roda Ahmed and Stasia Burrington
Non Fiction 2018

A picture book about Mae Jemison who follows her dreams to become the first African American woman in space!



Margaret and the Moon

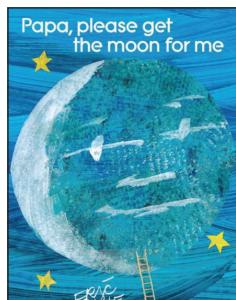
Dean Robbins and Lucy Knisley
Non Fiction 2017

This is a story about Margaret Hamilton and how she made the Apollo missions possible.





PreK – Grade 2 (Continued)



Papa, Please Get The Moon For Me

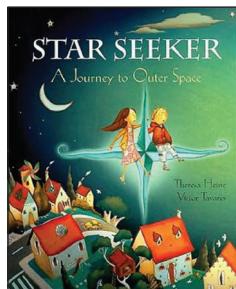
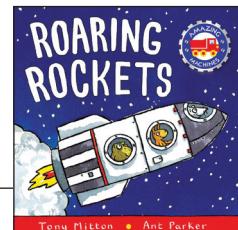
Eric Carle
Picture Book 1999

A story of a young girl asking her father to grab the moon from the sky for her keep. He eventually does when it gets smaller going through the phases, so it's not scientifically accurate but still fosters a love for space.

Roaring Rockets

Tony Mitton
Non Fiction 2000

Picture book about rockets flying through space, controlled by their animal crew. Filled with exciting illustrations and creative rhymes.



Star Seeker: A Journey to Outer Space

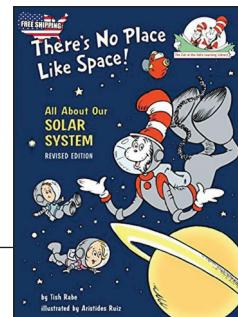
Theresa Heine and Victor Tavares
Fiction 2009

A fantastical trip through the night sky written in a poetic format. The images and descriptions are really beautiful and it is fun to read.

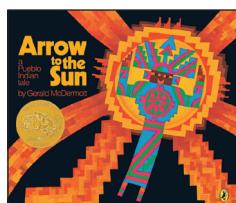
There's No Place Like Space: All About Our Solar System

Tish Rabe
Non Fiction 1999

Join the Cat the Hat as he explores our solar system and the celestial bodies in them including the 8 planets, their moons, our Sun, and even some constellations.



PreK – Grade 5



Arrow to the Sun: A Pueblo Indian Tale

Gerald McDermott
Picture Book 1977

A young boy searches for his father, but before he can claim his heritage he must first prove his worthiness by passing through four ceremonial chambers.



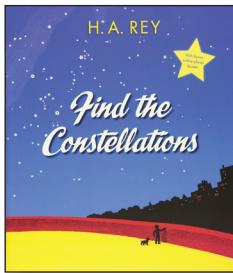
Product of the

NSSEC NASA SPACE SCIENCE EDUCATION CONSORTIUM

This is neither a comprehensive list nor an endorsement of NASA • Information is current as of June 2019



PreK – Grade 5 (Continued)



Find the Constellations

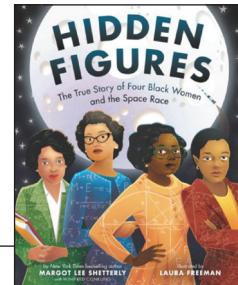
H. A. Rey
Non Fiction 2016

Cute illustrations. Containing star charts, a guide to the constellations, and details about seasons and the movement of the objects we see in the sky, this classic book makes H. A. Rey's passion for astronomy evident on every page.

Hidden Figures: The True Story of Four Black Women and the Space Race

Margot Lee Shetterly
Picture Book 2016

Four African American female mathematicians, referred to as "human computers," calculated the numbers to launch rockets—and humans—into space, using just pencils, slide rules, and adding machines.



Laika Astronaut Dog

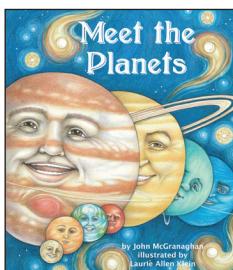
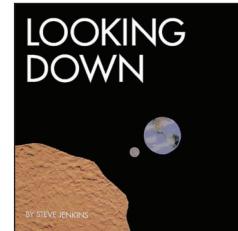
Owen Davey
Non Fiction 2013

The mostly true story of a stray dog who becomes the first dog in space. The story imagines that in the end, aliens find Laika and give her a new home.

Looking Down

Steve Jenkins
Picture Book 2003

From space to a ladybug, this amazing cut-paper illustrated book captures the views of the Earth from different altitudes. An exceptional picture book that opens up discussion about how we use shape, pattern, and texture to investigate different observations of our planet from above.



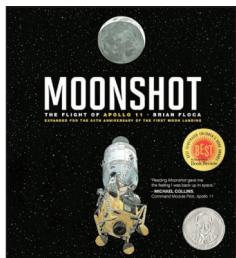
Meet the Planets

John McGranahan
Non Fiction 2012

Soar into the Solar System to witness the first Favorite Planet Competition, guided by none other than the former-ninth planet, now known as dwarf planet Pluto. The readers become the judges after the sun can't pick a favorite and the meteors leave for a shower.



PreK – Grade 5 (Continued)



Moonshot

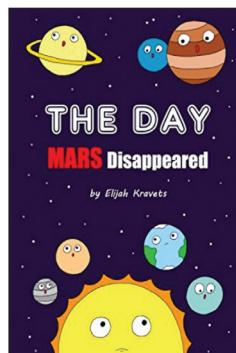
Brian Floca
Non Fiction 2010

A beautiful picture book with a surprisingly in-depth look at the historic Apollo 11 mission. Enjoyed by parents and kids alike.

National Geographic Little Kids First Big Book of Space

Catherine D. Hughes
Non Fiction 2012

These colorful pages will introduce young children to the wonders of space, with colorful illustrations by David Aguilar and simple text that is perfect for beginning readers or for reading aloud. The book will explain basic concepts of space, beginning with what is most familiar to kids and expanding out into the universe.



The Day Mars Disappeared: Story about Space and the Solar System

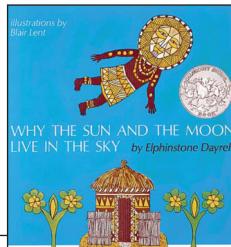
Elijah Kravets
Fiction 2017

Mars is one of the planets in our Solar System who thought there was nothing special about him. He considered that all planets had something unique in their nature and they were all beautiful except him. However, as all other planets along with the Sun were friendly and loved Mars, they pointed out to Mars's uniqueness.

Why the Sun and the Moon Live in the Sky

Elphinstone Dayrell
Fiction 1990

An African folktale that brings the Sun and the Moon to life. The Sun and his wife, the Moon, lived on Earth and built a large house so that the water people could visit. But so many poured in that they were forced to move to the sky.



Grades 3 – 5



Icarus at the Edge of Time

Brian Greene
Fiction 2008

Icarus at the Edge of Time is a futuristic reimagining of the classic Greek myth. This time, rather than wax wings and a journey too near the Sun, a boy ventures through deep space and challenges the awesome power of black holes.



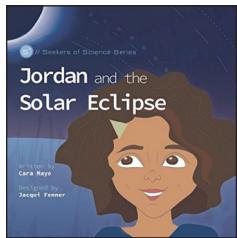
Product of the

NSSEC NASA SPACE SCIENCE EDUCATION CONSORTIUM

This is neither a comprehensive list nor an endorsement of NASA • Information is current as of June 2019



Grades 3 – 5 (Continued)



Jordan and the Solar Eclipse

Cara Mayo and Jacqui Jenner
Fiction 2017

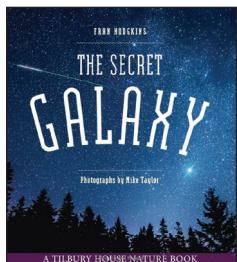
Meet Jordan, a middle school girl who gets dragged out of bed one morning to witness her first solar eclipse. She is less than enthusiastic about the whole thing until she meets Olivia, a young NASA astronomer. What ensues is a day that changes Jordan's life forever. Follow along as Jordan meets heliophysicists, astronomers, artists, space historians, and more! Who knows? She might even learn something about solar eclipses along the way...

The Green Book

Jill Paton Walsh
Fiction 1986



Pattie and her family are among the last refugees to flee a dying Earth in an old spaceship. And when the group finally lands on the distant planet which is to be their new home, it seems that the four-year journey has been success. But as they begin to settle this shining world, they discover that the colony is in serious jeopardy. With supplies dwindling, Pattie and her sister decide to take the one chance that might make life possible on Shine.



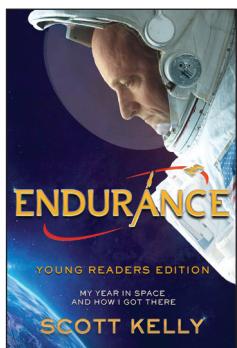
The Secret Galaxy

Fran Hodgkins
Non Fiction 2014

Learn secrets of space and the universe, and recognize many more mysteries to be solved. The pictures will fascinate readers of all ages.



Grades 6 – 8



Endurance – Young Reader’s Edition: My Year in Space and How I Got There

Scott Kelly
Non Fiction 2018

Scott Kelly, an astronaut who spent a year at the International Space Station, describes the difficulties of long-term spaceflight as well as the background that challenged him to get there.



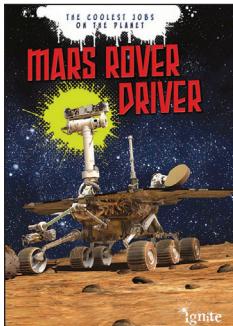
Product of the

NSSEC NASA SPACE SCIENCE EDUCATION CONSORTIUM

This is neither a comprehensive list nor an endorsement of NASA • Information is current as of June 2019



Grades 6 – 8 (Continued)



Mars Rover Driver: The Coolest Jobs on the Planet

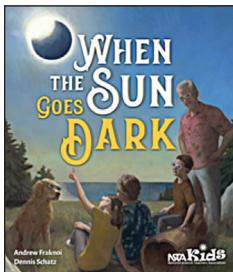
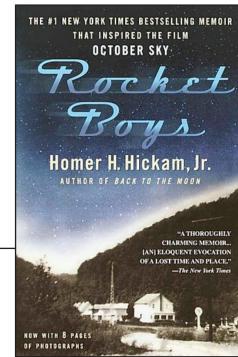
Scott Maxwell
Non Fiction 2013

No one has yet visited Mars—at least, no humans have. Robot rovers have explored the surface of the Red Planet, and it's the job of people on Earth to control their every movement. Find out what's involved in being a rover driver, the tools and skills you need, and the difficulties of controlling something that's millions of miles away.

The Rocket Boys

Homer Hickam Jr.
Non Fiction 2000

October Sky (the title on the mass market movie tie-in version of the best-selling The Rocket Boys) is the first memoir in a series of four, by Homer Hickam Jr. It is a story of growing up in a mining town and a boy's pursuit of amateur rocketry in a coal mining town.



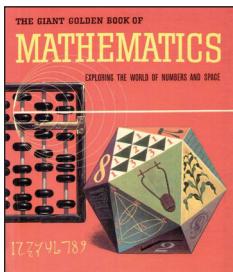
When the Sun Goes Dark

Andrew Fraknoi and Dennis Schatz
Non Fiction 2017

This richly illustrated book tells how two curious children and their grandparents re-create eclipses in their living room using a lamp, a tennis ball, two hula hoops, and Ping-Pong balls.



Grades 6 – College or Above



Giant Golden Book of Mathematics

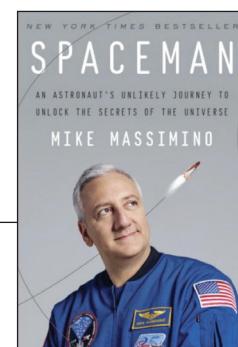
Irving Adler
Non Fiction 1968

Math exploration book with a lot of interesting puzzles and concepts explained for children with illustrations. A bright younger child can follow it, and it includes some conceptual explanations that might be more useful for older children.

Spaceman

Mike Massimino
Non Fiction 2016

An engaging and uplifting memoir that's sure to give readers a deeper appreciation for the U.S. space program and inspire some future astronauts.



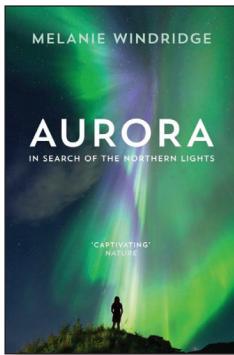
Product of the
NSSEC

NASA SPACE SCIENCE EDUCATION CONSORTIUM

This is neither a comprehensive list nor an endorsement of NASA • Information is current as of June 2019



Grades 9 – College or Above



Aurora: In Search of the Northern Lights

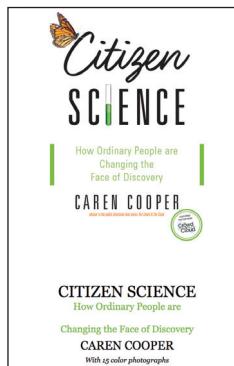
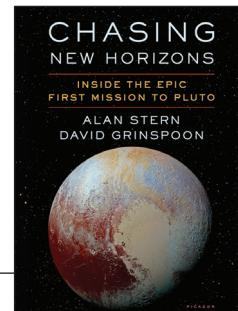
Dr. Melanie Windridge
Non Fiction 2016

The beautiful aurorae, or northern lights, are the stuff of legends. The ancient stories of the Sami people warn that if you mock the lights they will seize you, and their mythical appeal continues to capture the hearts and imagination of people across the globe.

Chasing New Horizons: Inside the Epic First Mission to Pluto

Alan Stern and David Grinspoon
Non Fiction 2018

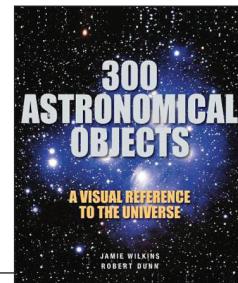
The story of the men and women behind the New Horizons mission to Pluto, as told by the mission leader Alan Stern. The book includes a 16-page color insert of images of the mission and encourages teamwork to achieve a goal.



Citizen Science: How Ordinary People are Changing the Face of Discovery

Caren Cooper
Non Fiction 2016

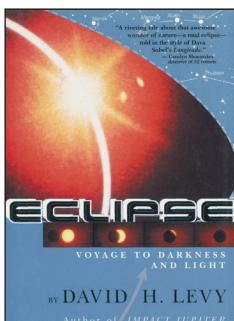
Think you need a degree in science to contribute to important scientific discoveries? Think again. All around the world, in fields ranging from astronomy to zoology, millions of everyday people are choosing to participate in the scientific process.



300 Astronomical Objects: A visual reference to the universe

Jamie Wilkins and Robert Dunn
Non Fiction 2006

It's like an encyclopedia for the universe. It describes each object, gives a 'scorecard' view of its main attributes and a couple of paragraphs about its existence. There are images for each object and all ages are able to appreciate the content on different levels.



Eclipse: Voyage to Darkness and Light

David Levy
Non Fiction 2018

World-famous astronomer David Levy saw a solar eclipse first as a child and then in 1999 in the North Atlantic. That voyage to the darkness of the disappearing Sun, followed by a rendezvous with a brilliant display of the Northern Lights formed the inspiration for this book.



Product of the

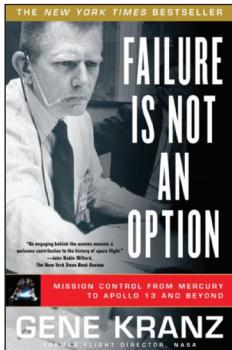
NSSEC

NASA SPACE SCIENCE EDUCATION CONSORTIUM

This is neither a comprehensive list nor an endorsement of NASA • Information is current as of June 2019



Grades 9 – College or Above (Continued)



Failure Is Not an Option: Mission Control From Mercury to Apollo 13 and Beyond

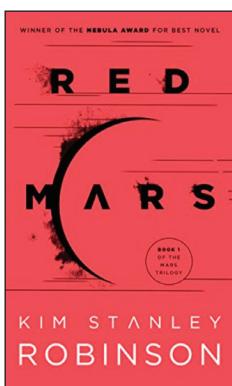
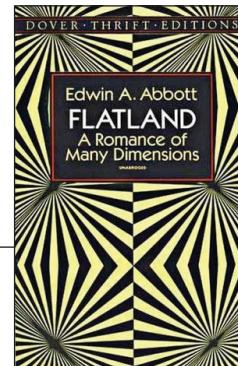
Gene Kranz
Non Fiction 2000

As a flight director in NASA's Mission Control, Gene Kranz witnessed firsthand the making of history. He participated in the space program from the early days of the Mercury program to the last Apollo mission, and beyond.

Flatland: A Romance of Many Dimensions

Edwin Abbott
Fiction 1884

Science and mathematical fiction that explores multiple dimensions. It describes the journey of 2-dimensional A. Square as he travels to Spaceland (three dimensions), Lineland (one dimension) and Pointland (no dimensions).



Red Mars

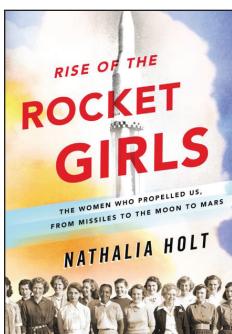
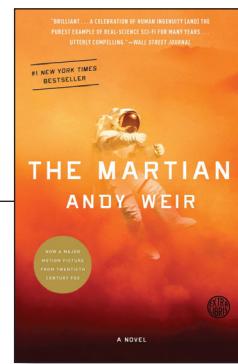
Kim Stanley Robinson
Fiction 1993

This first book in the trilogy follows the scientific, socio-economic and political turmoil that arises over the first few decades after humans land on and begin to terraform Mars.

The Martian

Andy Weir
Fiction 2014

An astronaut gets stranded on Mars by accident, and figures out how to survive long enough to be rescued by his crew mates.



Rise of the Rocket Girls: The Women Who Propelled Us From Missiles to the Moon to Mars

Nathalia Holt
Non Fiction 2017

This book tells the story of the women in the 1940s and 50s who used just pencil, paper and mathematics to transform human exploration of space by contributing to rocket design, satellite creation, and more at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory.