

Vol. 21 No. 5

# Opening the Gift

## Space Race

January 2018



*Light Up the Night* by Jean Reidy  
*Higher, Higher!* by Leslie Patricelli  
*Zoom, Rocket, Zoom!* by Margaret Mayo  
*A Trip Into Space* by Lori Haskins Houran  
*The Sun Is My Favorite Star* by Frank Asch  
*I Want to Be an Astronaut* by Byron Barton  
*Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star* by Jane Cabrera



## Nursery Rhyme: Star Light, Star Bright

### Songs & Fingerplays to Share



CD: "Space Song" from *Bottle of Sunshine* by Milkshake

#### If You're Going to the Moon

(tune: *If You're Happy and You Know It*)

If you're going to the moon,  
wear your boots.

(stomp, stomp)

If you're going to the moon,  
wear your boots.

(stomp, stomp)

If you're going to the moon,  
this is what you have to do.

(shake finger)

If you're going to the moon,  
wear your boots.

(stomp, stomp)

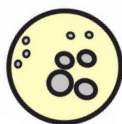
continue with:

...wear your suit (ziiip)

...wear your helmet (pat head)

...wear your gloves (clap, clap)

Mel's Desk @ [melissa.depperfamily.net/blog/](http://melissa.depperfamily.net/blog/)



Bend and stretch, reach for the stars,  
(bend low and stretch high)

Here comes Jupiter, there goes Mars.  
(point in one direction, then the other)

Bend and stretch, reach for the sky,  
(bend low and stretch high)

Stand on tippy toes, oh, so high!  
(tiptoe and stretch)

Adapted Traditional Rhymes

1001 Rhymes and Fingerplays PTC J 793.40



#### Astronaut, Astronaut

Astronaut, astronaut, turn around.

Astronaut, astronaut, touch the ground.

Astronaut, astronaut, jump up high.

Astronaut, astronaut, touch the sky.

Astronaut, astronaut, fly around in space.

Astronaut, astronaut, sit back in your place!



#### Zoom, Zoom, Zoom!

Zoom, zoom, zoom,  
We're going to the moon.

Zoom, zoom, zoom,  
We're going to the moon.

If you'd like to take a trip,  
Climb aboard my rocket ship.

Zoom, zoom, zoom,  
We're going to the moon.

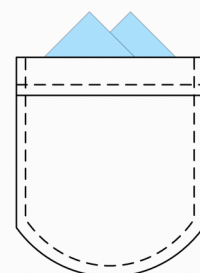
In 5...4...3...2...1...BLAST OFF!

continue with:

Fun, fun, fun,  
We're going to the sun...

Far, far, far,  
We're going to the stars...

for tune and hand movements,  
check out [Jbrary](#) on youtube!



Your next visit will be: February \_\_\_\_\_

Next month's theme will be: "What's In My Pocket?"



## More Books to Share:

*Sheep Blast Off!* by Nancy Shaw

*Mousetronaut* by Astronaut Mark Kelly

*Spaceships and Rockets* by Deborah Lock

*Stars! Stars! Stars!* by Nancy Elizabeth Wallace

*One Giant Leap: The Story of Neil Armstron* by Don Brown

*I Took the Moon for a Walk* by Carlyn Curtis and Alison Jay

## Activity Ideas:

**Paper Towel Moon:** This simple method creates a project with a remarkably realistic lunar surface! Cut a circle from a white paper towel for each child. Then have a child dampen a paper towel cutout in a bowl of diluted white glue. Next, help her spread the paper towel on a sheet of black paper. Encourage her to press her fingers in light gray paint and then "dance" them across the cutout to make crater-like prints. Finally, have the child tell what she knows about the moon. Use a white crayon or gel pen to write her words below the moon. *Mailbox Magazine, Preschool Edition Oct/Nov 2014*

**Getting Fit Obstacle Course:** Astronauts need to be in very good physical health! Help your preschoolers train for NASA by setting up an obstacle course!

Use whatever you have available: Circle mats to hop from one to the other (or precut paper circles taped to the floor), a tunnel to crawl through (chairs with a blanket over them work well!), a balance beam to walk on or hop over! *preschool-plan-it.com*

## Book of the Month:

*Nurturing Next-Generation Innovators: Open-Ended Activities to Support Global Thinking*

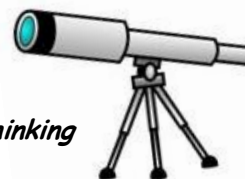
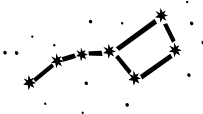
by Ellen Church Booth PTC 370.116 C

Children need a broad view of the world to better work with others and achieve academic success. That means being able to see many perspectives, listen to others, and share their own ideas and perceptions.

*Nurturing Next-Generation Innovators* aims to prepare the next generation of global citizens with simple activities that start with identifying different perspectives and then challenge them to notice what they perceive.

The themes in *Nurturing Next-Generation Innovators* are meant to ask children to notice relationships, investigate same and different, use perceptions to develop inductive and deductive reasoning, and evaluate their processes and thinking. All of this in the context of fun songs, games and activities.

This book is organized differently than the traditional activity book, which is divided into sections by skill or curriculum area. Instead, it is divided into four major themes that walk children through increasing understandings of their place in the world. Literacy, math, science, motor skills, and social skills are woven into each theme.



## Road to Reading Tip:

**Be a Reading Role Model** If you want your child to be a good reader, be one yourself!

Join HCPL's Winter Reading Program for adults and show how important reading is to YOU!

Scholastic suggests: ([scholastic.com/parents/resources/article/reading-together/be-reading-role-model](http://scholastic.com/parents/resources/article/reading-together/be-reading-role-model))

- Surround yourself with reading material
- Draw attention to all the things you read
- Buy or borrow books together
- Don't be a solo reader
- Read for leisure
- Bring something to read everywhere you go
- Emphasize the universal importance of reading

**Questions or Suggestions?** Call Melinda Chase, Bel Air Branch, 410-638-3151, ext. 6351  
If you have an urgent message for me, please speak with the operator, 410-638-4800 (starting at 8am)  
or call the Opening the Gift cell phone, 443-608-9881  
email: [chase@hcplonline.org](mailto:chase@hcplonline.org)

