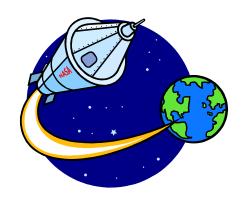


# Preschool Theme Kits

## OUTER SPACE



FOR YOU: a copy of these activities is available in back of this notebook.

**BOX CONTENTS** 

#### **BOOKS**

The Sky is Full of Stars
Franklyn Branley
Dogs in Space
Nancy Coffelt

Blast Off! A Space Counting Book

Norma Cole

Regards to the Man in the Moon

Ezra Jack Keats

One Day, Daddy Frances Thomas

Curious George Gets a Medal (Book with CD)

H.A. Rey

I Want to Be an Astronaut Byron Barton

Astronaut Piggywiggy Christyan Fox

Papa, Please Get the Moon Eric Carle

#### **AUDIO CD**

Space Songs for Children

#### TOY

Curious George Puzzle with wooden box

#### **ADULT RESOURCES**

Space Songs for Children Teacher Guide Tonja Weimer

#### **ACTIVITY NOTEBOOK**

BEYOND THE KITS STORYTIME HANDBOOK Welcome to the *Outer Space* Theme Kit. Our target age group is 2 to 5 year olds but we have included at least one board book for babies to use. All these books read aloud well, and there are activities, finger plays, and teacher guides to help you. Also, take a look at the general information sheet on the inside cover of this notebook. ENJOY!

## Related Activities

-Fun and Games-

#### **NIGHT SKY MURAL\***

On a very large piece of paper or paper bags cut open and taped together, let the children create a night sky mural. First cover as much as possible with dark blue and black paint. Let it dry. Prepare stars, planets and moon(s). When the paint is dry, glue stars, planets and moon to make a beautiful night sky.

Pick a spot to hang your mural, maybe near where the children nap. You could add small white lights to further the magic of "starlight".



\*Activities courtesy of the Early Childhood Office of the Seattle Public Library.

#### **CREATE WITH RECYCLABLES \***

The children can create space ships, aliens and robots out of egg cartons, styrofoam cups and meat trays, pipe cleaners, yarn, boxes of different sizes, large brown paper grocery bags, and odds and ends of all kinds. (Be aware of small pieces if you have very small children in your care/class). Provide plenty of tape, including duct tape, markers, glue, etc. Talk about different types of craft we are sending up in space (the space shuttle, satellites, space stations). Robots that help the astronauts, as well as the astronauts themselves, are also fun to create. While all the books in the kit work with this activity, you might especially look at I Want to Be an Astronaut for factual information and Regards to the Man in the Moon for imagination.

Alternative: as a group project, make one large space station/rocket ship. Include a console and other details. Set it up in your dramatic play area for free-time play.

#### **SPACE PAINT \***

Silver or white paint can be used with black or dark blue paper for an outer space art activity. Use paint brushes, cotton balls or cotton swabs, for a different kind of paintbrush.

#### MAKE A PLANET WALK

Color and cut out the nine planets in our solar system: Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Neptune, Uranus, Pluto in appropriate sizes. Make the sun and moon. Tape them around the daycare/classroom. Give each child a toilet paper or paper towel roll "telescope" and make "sightings". You can make this simple or as elaborate as you want: adding rings, moons to other planets, an asteroid belt, etc.

**Dogs in Space**, included in this kit, has brief descriptions of the planets that will help you with size, color and placement of the planets.

Enjoy your walk!



#### PIN THE EYE ON THE ALIEN \*

Here is a space version of pin-the-tail-onthe-donkey, with no losers. Draw a large alien with many tentacles coming out of his/her head. Have the children help by putting stars all around the outside of the alien (you can use stickers if you have them).

Give each child a pre-cut paper eye, with tape on the back. Blindfold the children in turn and head them toward the alien. Tape the eye to the closest tentacle the child comes to. Younger children like blindfolds that they can peek through.

## SPACE SONGS FOR CHILDREN, CD AND ACTIVITY GUIDE

These bouncy tunes and action songs help children learn science, as well as get them moving. The teacher's guide is full of activities and resources about outer space.

## -Fingerplays and Action Rhymes-

#### SPACE ROCKET

Sit crouched down, with hands over head to form a "cone". At ZOOOM, stand up and raise arms high.

Inside a rocket ship, Just enough room. Here comes the countdown – 10,9,8,7,6,5,4,3,2,1, ZOOOOOOOOOO



## RING AROUND THE ROCKET SHIP

A variation on Ring Around the Rosie. Children and adults form a circle holding hands, as they circle and sing.

Ring around the rocket ship
Try to grab a star
(Everyone drop hands and reach
up high.)
Stardust, Stardust,
Fall where you are!

From Ring a Ring O'Roses, Flint Public Library

#### ZOOM, ZOOM, ZOOM

Zoom, zoom, zoom, I'm going to the moon Swish hands against each other, moving upward.

If you want to take a trip Climb aboard my rocket ship Pretend to climb Zoom, zoom, zoom I'm going to the moon.

Crouch down 10,9,8,7,6,5,4,3,2,1, Blast off!

Jump high and clap loudly!

#### **AT NIGHT**

At night I see the twinkling stars And a great big smiling moon. My mommy tucks me into bed And sings a goodnight tune. Open and shut hands over head, Circle arms over head for moon Place index finger in other cupped hand Rock finger inside of cupped hand



Outer Space Theme Kit

#### **Questions or Suggestions:**

Call the Youth Services Dept. at (360) 384-3150

How You Can Help

- Use and return kits promptly so that they are available for others.
- Please check box contents before returning.
- Do not use the book drop. Please return kits inside an open library.