Educator Resource List for Upper Elementary and Middle School

Juvenile Fiction:

The following are a selection of upper elementary and middle grade novels that focus on space as the setting or overall theme.

- Ambassador by William Alexander. [JF Alexander William]
- Astrotwins: Project Blastoff by Mark E. Kelly. [JF Kelly Mark Bk 1]
- Big Game by Dan Smith. [JF Smith Dan]
- Fortunately, the Milk by Neil Gaiman. [JF Gaiman Neil]
- George’s Cosmic Treasure Hunt by Lucy & Stephen Hawking. [JF Hawking Lucy Bk 2]
- George’s Secret Key to the Universe by Lucy & Stephen Hawking. [JF Hawking Lucy Bk 1]
- Life on Mars by Jennifer Brown. [JF Brown Jennifer]
- The Little Prince by Antoine de Saint-Exupery. [JF Saint-Exupery Antoine de]
- One Small Step by Philip Kerr. [JF Kerr P B]
- The Outer Space Mystery by Gertrude Warner. Series: Boxcar Children Mysteries; Bk 59 [JF Warner, Gertrude]
- Space Boy by Orson Scott Card. [JF Card Orson Scott]
- Spaced Out: A Moon Base Alpha Novel by Stuart Gibbs. [JF Gibbs Stuart]
- The Strange Case of Origami Yoda by Tom Angleberger. [JF Angleberger Tom Bk 1]
- A Wrinkle in Time by Madeleine L’Engle. [JF L’Engle Madeleine]

Juvenile Nonfiction:

The following are a selection of general nonfiction texts for upper elementary and middle school readers that have a focus on space and space exploration.

- Astronaut: Life as a Scientist and Engineer in Space by Ruth Owen. [JNF 629.45 OWE]
- How to Build a Planet: A Step-by-Step Guide to Building the Earth by Scott Forbes. [JNF 550 FOR]
- Little Kids First Big Book of Space by Catherine D. Hughes. [JNF 520 HUG]
- Look to the Stars by Buzz Aldrin. [JNF 629.409 ALD]
- The Magic School Bus: Lost in the Solar System by Joanna Cole and Bruce Degen. [523.3 COL]
- The Magic School Bus Sees Stars: A Book About Stars by Nancy White. [JNF 523.8 WHI]
- The Mighty Mars Rovers: The Incredible Adventures of Spirit and Opportunity by Elizabeth Rusch. [JNF 523.43 RUS]
- Moon: Science, History, and Mystery by Stewart Ross. [JNF 523.3 ROS]
- Moonshot: The Flight of Apollo 11 by Brian Floca. [JNF 629.45 FLO]
- Night Sky: Watching the Universe Outside Your Window by Giles Sparrow. [JNF 520 SPA]
- Pluto’s Secret: An Icy World’s Tale of Discovery by Margaret A. Weitekamp and David DeVorkin. [JNF 523.49 WEI]
- Space Exploration: Primary Sources by Peggy Saari. [JNF 629.4 SAA]
- The Space Race by Peter Benoit. [JNF 629.4 BEN]
- Totally Wacky Facts About Exploring Space by Emma Carson Berne. [JNF 629.13 BER]
- Welcome to Mars: Making a Home on the Red Planet by Buzz Aldrin. [JNF 523.43 ALD]
These nonfiction resources focus on the history of space exploration and discovery, including biographies of astronauts or other prominent figures in space exploration.

- *Almost Astronauts: 13 Women Who Dared to Dream—The True Story of the 'Mercury 13'*
  by Tanya Lee Stone. [JNF 629.45 STO]
- *Ellen Ochoa* by Christine Juarez. [ENF 92 Ochoa Ellen]
- *Great Scientists* by Jacqueline Fortey. [JNF 509.2 FOR]
- *Hidden Figures: Young Readers’ Edition* by Margo Lee Shetterly. [Coming soon to BPL]
- *Mars Science Lab Engineer Diana Trujillo* by Kari A. Cornell. [JNF 92 Trujillo Diana]
- *Reaching for the Moon* by Buzz Aldrin. [JNF 92 Aldrin Buzz]
- *Sally Ride* by AnnMarie Anderson. [JNF 92 Ride Sally]
- *Sally Ride and the Shuttle Missions* by Andrew Langley. [JNF 629.45 LAN]
- *Who is Neil Armstrong?* by Roberta Edwards. [JNF 92 Armstrong Neil]
- *Women in Science* by Macmillan Profiles. [JNF 920 MAC]
- *Women in Science: 50 Fearless Pioneers Who Changed the World* by Rachel Ignotofsky. [Coming soon to BPL]
- *Who is Neil Armstrong?* by Roberta Edwards. [JNF 92 Armstrong Neil]

This next list features a selection of “star stories,” or narratives surrounding the constellations in the night sky.

- *Celebrate Chinese New Year* by Carolyn Otto. [JNF 394.261]
- *The Constellation Orion: The Story of the Hunter* by Arnold Ringstad. [JNF 523.8 RIN] *Part of a series*
- *Coyote in Love with a Star* by Marty Kreipe De Montano. [Coming soon to BPL]
- *Everything Mythology* by B. A. Hoena. [JNF 201 HOE]
- *The Race for the Chinese Zodiac* by Gabrielle Wang. [JNF 398.2 WAN]
- *How Raven Stole the Sun* by Maria Williams. [Coming soon to BPL]
- *Keepers of the Night: Native American Stories and Nocturnal Activities for Children* by Michael J. Caduto and Joseph Bruchac. [Coming soon to BPL]
- *Treasury of Norse Mythology* by Donna Jo Napoli. [JNF 293.13 NAP]
- *Trickster: Native American Tales-A Graphic Collection* by B. A. Hoena. [JGR 398.2 DEM]

BPL also has a selection of print resources that feature activities to use in the classroom - the following have a focus on space and astronomy.

- *Astronaut Academy* by Steve Martin. [JNF 629.4 MAR]
- *Easy Space Origami* by Christopher Harbo. [JNF 736.982 HAR]
- *Explore Night Science! With 25 Great Projects* by Cindy Blobaum. [JNF 508.078 BLO]
- *Projects with Space* by Louise Spilsbury. [JNF 745.59 SPI]
- *The Poetry of Science: The Poetry Friday Anthology for Science for Kids* compiled by Sylvia Vardell and Janet Wong. [JNF 808.81 VAR]

A popular format with young readers, the following are graphic novels that feature space as a main theme or setting.

- *The Amazing Story of Space Travel* by Agneiszka Biskup. [JGR 629.4 BIS]
- *Astronauts* by David West. [JGR 629.45 WES]
- *Hide and Seek Moon: The Moon Phases* by Robin Koontz. [JGR 523.3 KOO]
- *The History of Flight* by Gary Jeffrey. [JGR 629.13 JEF]
- *Incredible Space Missions* by Gary Jeffrey. [JGR 629.45 JEF]
- *T-Minus: The Race to the Moon* by Jim Ottaviani. [JGR.4502 OTT]

**Bentonville Public Library’s Online Resources**

Bentonville Public Library also offers a variety of online resources for young learners covering a wide-span of content areas. Below is a selection of material on space available on these resources. All are available through BPL’s Student Portal: http://www.bentonvillelibrary.org/student-portal/

**K-4 PebbleGo:**
Biographies—

**K-4 World Book Online for Kids:**

**5-6 The Encyclopedia of Arkansas History and Culture:**
http://www.encyclopediaofarkansas.net/encyclopedia/entry-detail.aspx?search=1&entryID=6626
http://www.encyclopediaofarkansas.net/encyclopedia/entry-detail.aspx?search=1&entryID=6626

**5-6 ProQuest CultureGrams:**
"China: Holidays." CultureGrams Online Edition, ProQuest, 2016,
http://online.culturegrams.com/world/world_country_sections.php?cid=34&cn=China&sname=Holidays&snid=16

**General: NoveList Plus [Book reviews for teachers]**
NoveList is the premiere database of reading recommendations, available through libraries around the world. NoveList’s expert recommendations mean that you’ll always get high quality results to help find just the right books.

**Other Online Resources:**

- Brian Jungen: Strange Comfort exhibition, “Crux (As seen from those who sleep on the surface of the earth under the night sky),”
  http://www.nmai.si.edu/exhibitions/jungen/crux.html#crocodile
- Decoding Mars: http://grius.si.edu/do/decoding-mars
- Living Maya Time: Sun, Corn, and the Calendar: http://maya.nmai.si.edu/
- NASA Design Challenges: https://www.nasa.gov/feature/space-poop-challenge
- NASA Education: Women in STEM: https://www.nasa.gov/education/womenstem
● NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory: http://www.jpl.nasa.gov/
● NASA Kennedy Space Center: https://www.nasa.gov/centers/kennedy/home/index.html
● Smithsonian National Air and Space Museum: https://airandspace.si.edu/

Explore Space Exhibit Information:

Explore Space: A Cosmic Journey, a traveling exhibition for libraries, is part of the STAR Library Education Network (STAR_Net) led by the National Center for Interactive Learning at the Space Science Institute. Exhibit partners include the American Library Association, the Lunar and Planetary Institute, and Afterschool Alliance. Explore Space is supported through a grant from the National Science Foundation.

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