Global Readings 4
A Primary Literacy Anthology

with Digital Student’s Book

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What’s Up There?

Activating Prior Knowledge About Exploring Space

See, Think, Wonder

A Look at the picture. What do you see?
   I see an elephant on top of a cloud.

B What do you think?
   I think a really big telescope took this picture.
   Why do you say that?

C What do you wonder?
   I wonder how many stars there are.

D Think and discuss. How do we explore space?
   What space missions do you know?
   To explore space we ...

E Scan the first page of Hope You Like Fish. What is the name of the spaceship?

Now read Hope You Like Fish
The launch pad, just before dawn. The rocket stands tall. Steam comes from the engines. Mission control checks everything. Mars 11 is ready to blast into space. But there is a problem. Two of the astronauts on board the spaceship are not happy.

I can’t believe they’re sending us into space with these guys again.

Marfusha, Enos, and Ham were names of real animals who went to space during the 1950s and 60s.

Worst day ever.

Words in Context

Find these words in the reading. What do you think they mean?

- launch
- Mission Control
- blast
- gravity
- in sight

Fire blasts from the rocket engines. The rocket shakes and roars. It lifts off towards the sky. It is loud. It is scary.

The countdown begins.

5, 4, 3, 2, 1. Blast off!

Hey, what did we do wrong?

Remember the last time?

Shhh!

You landed us in totally the wrong place. You were reading the map upside down.

I guess maybe we got distracted.

It could happen to anybody.

Get ready for launch. Good luck astronauts! This mission is very important.
Soon, Mars 11 is up in space. From up there, the Earth looks beautiful.

I’ve changed my mind!

We’re exploring new worlds for science.

It’s a two-year mission.

Oh yeah, right. Mars. Two years? That’s a long time.

I’m hungry.
Snack time!

To land on Mars and collect rocks, remember?

Sit down!

Marfusha turns off the rockets. The astronauts take off their safety belts and float in zero gravity.

Wow, it looks like a long way down.

Are you sure Mars is this way?

Of course. The rabbits are in charge.

Mission control, we’re on course for the planet Mars.

I didn’t bring you one.

Hey, that’s not fair! Where’s my space snack?

The spaceship flies towards the red planet. Marfusha moves the controls.

What does in charge mean?

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Snack time!

Hey, that’s not fair! Where’s my space snack?

I didn’t bring you one.

What does in charge mean?
The two chimps chase each other around the tiny spaceship. They only have one thing on their minds: food.

Oh, no! This isn’t the time for a space snack!

Give that back!

You must sit down. You’re going to cause an accident.

Later, back down on Earth … the spaceship floats in the middle of the ocean. There is nothing else in sight. The astronauts are a long way from home. It might be a while before mission control finds them. There’s time to catch something tasty for dinner.

Why do you think people sent animals into space in the 1960s?

We hope you like fish …

We said we were sorry.

Never go up in space with chimps.

You chimps shouldn’t think about food all the time!

Never, ever.

Not all early space missions were successful.
Explore the Reading

A Read and answer.
1 When is the launch?
2 What did the chimps do wrong last time?
3 What is the purpose of the mission?
4 Why do the astronauts float when they are up in space?
5 Who is in charge?
6 Where does the mission land?

B Think and write. What do you think is important to the rabbits? What is important to the chimps? What makes you think that?

C Think and discuss. Food distracted Ham and Enos from their mission to Mars. What do you do when something distracts you?

When I’m distracted, 1 …

Listen and write. Then check your answers.

Spelling Pattern   long i
1 l      2 l      3 q      4 g      5 m

Now find more words with a long i in the reading.

Get Ready to Read

A Scan the timeline. Answer the questions.
1 Who was the first woman in space?
2 What happened in 1969?
3 How long did Scott Kelly and Mikhail Komienko live in space?

B Scan the first page of First Man in Space. Then answer the questions.
1 When was Yuri Gagarin born?
2 Where did Gagarin’s parents work?

C Think and discuss. What kind of person explores space? What skills do you think astronauts need?

When we scan a reading, we are looking for a particular piece of information. We don’t read all of the words. We are looking for names, words, or numbers to answer questions.

B Scanning for Specific Information
On April 12, 1961, an astronaut squeezed into a tiny space capsule and got ready for launch. The name of the space capsule was Vostok 1 and the name of the astronaut was Yuri Gagarin … the first man to go into space.

Yuri Gagarin was born in 1934 in a small farming village in Russia. While his parents worked on the farm, Gagarin’s older sister looked after him.

When he was in high school, Gagarin joined a flying club and learned to fly. Later, he went to an air force school and became a fighter pilot.

In 1960, 20 air force pilots were chosen for a secret mission to put the first human into space. Gagarin was one of them.

The 20 astronauts had to go through a lot of tough training. They had to learn to survive on their own. To help keep in shape, they played sports. Gagarin did everything well. He often had a smile on his face. Gagarin’s skills and upbeat attitude made him the best man to explore space.

Space exploration was very dangerous. Before putting a human on board, the Vostok capsule was tested many times. Several launches failed.
On the day of the launch, Gagarin was calm as he waited for blast-off. He even asked for some music on the radio.

At last, at 6:07 a.m., the control room pressed the ignition button. As Vostok 1 blasted off into space, control said “LIFT OFF! We wish you a good flight.”

Gagarin answered by saying “Poyekhali!”, which is Russian for “Let’s go!”

Eleven minutes later, at 6:18, Yuri Gagarin became the first man to enter space. From the small windows of Vostok 1, Gagarin looked down on planet Earth. “I can see clouds. I can see everything. It’s beautiful,” said Gagarin.

When Vostok 1 returned to Earth, Gagarin parachuted down. He landed in a field near Smelovka in Russia where he met some surprised people. “I am a friend,” he quickly said.

Soon, Gagarin was one of the most famous people in the world. Everywhere he went people treated him as a hero for his bravery and threw him big parades. Gagarin earned many medals and awards. He got a lot of mail from fans and had streets named after him.

Today, near the place where he was born, there is a town called Gagarin with a statue of him. Everyone will remember the first human in space. He was the astronaut with the famous smile.
A Read and write True or False.
1. In 1960, 100 air force pilots were chosen for a secret space mission.
2. While his parents worked on the farm, Yuri’s older sister looked after him.
3. When he was in high school, Yuri joined a bowling club and learned to bowl.
4. The astronauts had to go through a lot of tough training.
5. On April 12, 1961, Yuri Gagarin became the first person to enter space.
6. Today, there is a town called Gagarin.

B Think, discuss, and write. Imagine you meet Yuri Gagarin. What do you ask him?
1. On the day of the launch, did you _____________________________________________________________________________.
2. _____________________________________________________________________________.
3. _____________________________________________________________________________.

C Think and write. Which characteristics do you think make a good astronaut? Use the words to write sentences.

smart, healthy, tall, funny, friendly, strong, weak, brave

________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

D Think and discuss. Would you make a good astronaut? Why or why not?
I would be a good astronaut, because ...
I would like to go on a mission, because ...

How do we explore space?

A Compare and contrast the space missions in Hope You Like Fish and First Man in Space.

B Think and discuss. What do you imagine the astronauts on a space mission hear? What do they see? What do you think it feels like in space? Do a Roundtable.

C Complete the Y chart with your ideas from B.

Feels Like

Sounds Like

Looks Like

My Reading Journal

Look back at the unit. What questions do you have?
________________________________________________________________________
________________________________________________________________________

What’s your opinion of this unit?
I liked ____________________________________________________________________
I didn’t like ____________________________________________________________________