Out of this World Reads

Celebrate our 2019 Summer Adventure theme, A Universe of Stories, with these stellar offerings about outer space. Scroll down for picture books to share together, chapter books for independent readers, and nonfiction titles to satisfy curious minds.

Picture Books to Share (J-Easy)

Agee, John. Life on Mars. Arriving on the red planet with cupcakes to share, a brave young astronaut seeks out alien life but finds only dirt and rocks. However, sharp-eyed readers will soon discern that the child is not alone in this laugh-out-loud adventure.

Ahmed, Roda. Mae Among the Stars. This inspiring look at the childhood of Mae Jemison, the first African American woman in space, encourages children to reach dream big and never give up on their ambitions.

Dean, James. Out of this World. When Pete the Cat heads off to space camp, his experiences include floating in zero gravity, building a rocket ship, and blasting off on space mission.

Dempsey, Kristy. Papa Put a Man on the Moon. As the moon landing unfolds before their eyes, Marthanne is proud of her father, whose work weaving the fabric used in the astronauts’ spacesuits is one example of the contributions made to the Apollo 11 mission by Americans across the country.

Lehraupt, Adam. Chicken in Space. Though the other barnyard animals are skeptical, Zoey, a big-thinking chicken, is determined to follow her dream of traveling into space. Filled with ingenuity, friendship, and humor, this tale will inspire imaginative play.

Regan, Dian Curtis. Space Boy and His Dog. Accompanied by his dog and his robot copilot, Niko boards his homemade space ship and blasts off to the moon in search of a lost cat. This picture book series combines vivacious artwork, entertaining adventures, humor, and loads of imagination.
Chapter Books and Graphic Novels

Brooks, Molly. *Sanity & Tallulah*. This fast-paced graphic novel stars two best friends who live in a space station at the end of the galaxy. When Sanity's illegally created three-headed kitten escapes, the girls have to turn their home upside down to find her. J 741.5973 SANITYTA BROO

Edge, Christopher. *The Jamie Drake Equation*. After stumbling upon a secret science lab in a nearby observatory, Jamie discovers that an alien has been downloaded to his phone.

Emerson, Kevin. *Last Day on Mars*. While waiting to leave Mars before it burns up just like the Earth before it, Liam and his friend Phoebe discover some facts about time and space and realize that the human race is just one of the races trying to survive in space. (Teen)

Gibbs, Stuart. *Space Case*. Dash, who lives on Moon Base Alpha, finds himself solving a murder when one of the colony’s scientists is found dead. Make sure to check out the other books in the series!

Hatke, Ben. *Zita the Spacegirl* (series). Dynamic cartoon artwork and rapid-fire text depict the zany adventures of an intrepid heroine as she encounters aliens, making new allies and facing foes, while trying to rescue her best friend. J 741.5973 ZITASPACE HATK

Lee, Yoon Ha. *Dragon Pearl*. Min, a 13-year-old girl with fox-magic, stows away on a battle cruiser and impersonates a cadet in order to find out what happened to her brother. (Teen)

Trine, Greg. *Willy Maykit in Space*. Lost during an interstellar fieldtrip to Planet Ed, Willy must find a way to survive. Told with humorous cartoon-style artwork and fast-reading text.

Van Eekhout, Greg. *Voyage of the Dogs*. A specially trained canine crew that assists human astronauts on missions in space is stranded on a severely damaged ship and must figure out how to survive without human protection.
Winick, Judd. *Hilo: The Boy Who Crashed to Earth*. This fun graphic novel series stars an alien who falls from the sky one day while D.J. is playing nearby. The two become fast friends and work together to save the world. J 741.5973 HILO WIN

**True Tales (Nonfiction)**

Brown, Don. *Rocket to the Moon!* An overview of the discoveries that enabled space travel and an adventure-packed history of the Apollo 11 mission, told in graphic novel format with crisp artwork and entertaining narration. J 629.454 BROW

DeCristofano, Carolyn. *Ultimate Space Atlas: Maps, Games, Activities, and More for Hours of Galactic Fun!* Clearly presented information combines with stellar photographs to provide an engaging introduction to our universe. J 550 DECR

Jenkins, Martin. *Exploring Space: From Galileo to the Mars Rover and Beyond*. This amazingly thorough overview of space exploration is illustrated with crisply detailed cross-sections and cut-aways that provide a glimpse inside various space vessels, the Kennedy Space Center, a possible Mars colony, and more. J 629.409 JENK


McMahon, Peter. *The Space Adventure’s Guide: Your Passport to the Coolest Things to See and Do in the Universe*. Written like a futuristic travel guide, this book provides an engaging introduction to space science, our universe, historical missions, and the requirements—and thrill—of possible space tourism. J 629.4 MCMA

Slade, Suzanne. *Countdown: 2979 Days to the Moon*. A gripping account of the audacious, daring, and danger-fraught space race to the moon, told in crystalline free verse and stunning artwork. J 629.454 SLAD
Slade, Suzanne. *Daring Dozen: The Twelve Who Walked on the Moon*. Brief text and spectacular watercolors introduce the Apollo missions that carried 12 daring astronauts to the surface of the moon. J 629.454 SLAD

Wolf, Allan. *The Day the Universe Exploded in My Head*. Combining factual content with out-of-this-world fun, this vibrantly illustrated collection of poems provides an inviting look at planets, space travel, and the wonders of the universe. J 811.54 WOLF