

Ideas for the Story Plot

The ideas below try to capture the essence in most of the story concepts shared by partners. We tried also to bring a bit of mystery and fun to the stories, to make them more engaging.

The ideas that follow are far from being a full story, as we did not yet explore the astronomy concepts. They are just initial concepts lacking the details that will make them more engaging and the contents that will contribute to the defined learning objectives.

A. Space Guardian Trilogy

3 small books to explore the astronomy topics and related preschool curricula telling the story and the first adventures of the Space Guardians Task Force.

The first book mainly explores topics like the Moon, Earth and Sun. The second book explores the Sun and stars. The third will focus more on the planets and the solar system.

The hero (main character) is a boy/girl (the reader chooses and names him/her)

#1. The Moon has been stolen!

It was getting darker. In his/her room, our hero had just arrived from school. As he/she opened his/her backpack a small piece of paper dropped. He/she picked it up. It said: "I've stolen the Moon. Find it if you want to see it again! And be advised...tell no adult...or else..."

Our hero runs outside. He/she searches the sky for the Moon...but nothing. The Moon had disappeared! Someone had stolen the Moon!

Alarmed, he/she ran back to his/her room. He/she could not tell his/her parents...the piece of paper said "tell no adults" and he /she did not want to make the situation worse. The only solution was to find the Moon and who had stolen it.

He/she would need help. He/she goes to the computer and shares the terrible news with his friends. In a matter of hours, kids from all over the world joined the quest to find the Moon.

(...)

A quest starts – a police-like inquiry to find the answer to the mystery – with a help of friends from all over the world: where was the Moon last seen? How did it look like? Did the Moon have enemies? What would be necessary to steal the Moon? Who could have done it?

This inquire would have to be created to serve the purpose of addressing the desired astronomy topics. As the inquiry goes, new leads come up, and the reader can solve puzzles to progress in the story.

In the end, he/she realises that the Moon had not been stolen...it was New Moon and it had been there all that time.

The author of the supposes theft reveals itself: it was an organisation called SpaceGuardians, a group of kids that pledge to unveil secrets from Space, and note had been in fact an admission test into their task force.

Notes:

- This story addresses the topics of the Earth, Moon and Sun (approach suggested by Carlos 1st story)
- Explaining the phases of the moon allow to talk about the Earth and the Sun
- Including friends from around the world serves the purpose of exploring topics about Earth, day/night, rotation...
- By creating a mystery, we expect to make the story more engaging

#2. Space Guardian One!

The silence in the SpaceGuardians' headquarters broke when the cryptographer of the task force shouted: "I decode the message!". It was an old message of unknown origin that was in the SpaceGuardians' archives for long.

All approached to read the message. "wow", "fantastic", "I cannot believe it!" could be hear across the room. The message was a conversation between aliens! Somehow an alien landed on Earth a long time ago, but the spaceship was damaged, and he couldn't get back to his Planet. So, he hid the spaceship and asked for another ship to pick him up. "So, there is a spaceship out there!" one said. "Look, there are some clues to where he hid it." added another

(...)

A quest starts following the leads to find the spaceship. The main leads have to do with a solar eclipse, enabling to explore the Sun more, and with the stars.

In the end, they find the spaceship and name it the Space Guardian One.

#3. Space Guardian One!

After some repairing, Space Guardian One was finally ready for duty. The task force was engaged in discovering the origin of these aliens that visited Earth so long ago.

The first task was to explore every inch of the spaceship for clues.

(...)

A quest starts finding and exploring leads in the ship's logs. For each clue they rule out Planets from the solar system till there is only planet left.

In the end, they set up the ship and start a voyage to the Planet. Depending on the length of the book they can reach the planet and make contact with the aliens.

In the future, the story may continue with new adventures.

B. A single adventure

Single book to explore the astronomy topics and related preschool curricula.

The hero (main character) is a boy/girl (the reader chooses and names him/her) and his/her dog (or other animal)

Space Rescue!

He/she was hiking with his dog. They fall into a hole where they find a spaceship hidden. They enter. The hero pushes some buttons. A message appears – it's an invitation from an alien for a party in a planet of the solar system where all the inhabitants from the neighbouring planets are invited.

The onboard computer (an AI) will help the hero in the voyage, explaining facts, etc.

The ship takes off, but after a while, unexpectedly, it drifts, unable to cross the atmosphere. It lands in another part of the world.

The hero finally realizes it did something wrong. Now he/she was ready to have another go. The ship takes off again, but now successfully.

When it leaves the atmosphere, the hero goes to the window to contemplate the Earth from above. With special equipment we will zoom in to see its home, before resuming the journey.

(...)

The adventure begins by crossing the solar system, collecting clues and getting closer to the destination where the hero arrives to the party with very strange creatures.