



Danny's Rocket

Level G / 131 words / fiction

High frequency words:

came, going, how, made, take, too, was, white

Before reading

- Look at the cover and read the title.
- Possible discussion questions: "What is on the front cover? What do you think will happen in this story?"

Look through all the pictures

- Using the language in the story, discuss each photograph in the book. Notice details in the pictures and use that information to better understand the text.
- Help the children find any tricky words in the text: *spacesuit, science, goodbye, and stripes*. Discuss meaning, word structure, and sounds you expect to hear in those words. Have children clap and count the syllables. Notice that *spacesuit* and *goodbye* are compound words.

Reading the text

- Have the children read the text independently. While they're reading, listen to and prompt each student to use meaning, structure, and visual information to figure out words, self-correct, or improve expression.
- Children should be able to track print with their eyes, move quickly through the text, and read fluently while paying attention to punctuation, except at point of difficulty.

FUN FACT

Putting on a spacesuit takes 45 minutes, including the time it takes to put on the special undergarments that help keep astronauts cool. The process of putting on a spacesuit is called *donning* and the process of removing it is called *doffing*.

After reading

- Discuss the meaning, structure, and letter cues that you notice students using correctly.
- **Literal comprehension:** The answers are in the text. Ask, "Why did Danny want to make a rocket? Why did Bee ride on the rocket instead of Danny?" Have students read the pages that support their answers.
- **Inferential comprehension:** The answers are in your head. Ask, "How do you think Bee felt when the rocket started going down, down, down? How would you feel if you were on a rocket to the moon?"

Word work

- Have the students locate the high-frequency words in the text and practice writing them.
- Find and practice the words with the CVCe pattern: *make, made, white, safe, came, and take*.
- Find and discuss the pairs of opposite words in the text: *up-down* and *big-small*. Opposites are also called *antonyms*.

Rereading for fluency

- Have the child(ren) read the story again aloud, listening for phrased, fluent oral reading that includes appropriate pausing, intonation and word stress.

Writing activity

- Have each student elaborate on the text by creating a future episode of *Danny's Rocket* where Danny and Bee make it to the moon. Then have the students draw a picture that corresponds to what they have written.

Teaching Points: Introducing new words; Noticing compound words; Finding and clapping multisyllabic words; Practicing words with the CVCe pattern; Introducing antonyms (opposite pairs); Rereading; Expanding text with illustrations.