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# SPACE CASE

Author: Edward Marshall

Illustrator: James Marshall

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## THEME:

When you think about it, there are millions and millions of miles of outer space and it's interesting to guess what kinds of life forms might exist out there.

## PROGRAM SUMMARY:

When the thing from outer space visits Earth, it is mistaken first for a trick-or-treater. Then it is mistaken for a robot. What would it be like to meet beings from another planet? LeVar sends a special invitation to all the aliens that might be watching—to visit Earth and shows them some of Earth's wonders. Viewers visit Puerto Rico to learn about the biggest radio receiver/telescope on earth where scientists listen to outer space, and the Lick Observatory in California, where astronomers use a gigantic telescope to scan the skies.

## TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION:

Ask students to describe what they think it is like in outer space. List some of their descriptive words on the board or a chart so they can use the words later in other activities if they need them.

Pose the question, "Is there life on other planets?" Have students give reasons for their opinions.

Have students imagine a visit to the classroom by a space creature. What would they tell it about their school? About their planet? What questions would they ask the space creature about its home? How would they go about making friends with the space creature?

## CURRICULUM EXTENSION ACTIVITIES:

Many star legends may be found in single illustrated versions and in collections. A review book for this episode, *Legend of the Milky Way*, is one of them. Locate other star legends to read aloud and have the class keep an ongoing chart of star and constellation "origins." Discuss similarities and differences across cultures. Books that will be helpful include: *Her Seven Brothers* by Paul Goble (Simon & Schuster), *How the Stars Fell into the Sky* by Jerrie Oughton (Houghton Mifflin), *The Story of the Milky Way: A Cherokee Tale* by Joseph Bruchac and Gayle Ross (Dial), *North American Indian Stories: Star Tales* by Gretchen Will Mayo (Walker), *A Song of Stars* by Tom Birdseye (Holiday House), and *They Dance in the Sky: Native American Star Myths* by Jean G. Monroe and Ray A. Williamson (Houghton Mifflin).

With the help of the library media specialist, locate books on the history of the space program and the training and work of astronauts. Have students establish a "Space History" timeline. Use index cards for labels and have students decide on appropriate placements on the timeline. The following events might be included: launch of Sputnik (October 4, 1957); first group of U.S. astronauts named (April 9, 1959); first man in space, Russian Yuri Gagarin (April 12, 1961); first American in space, Alan Shepard (May 5, 1961); first U.S. astronaut to orbit the Earth, John Glenn (February 20, 1962); Apollo 1 fire which killed astronauts Gus Grissom, Ed White, and Roger Chaffee (January 27, 1967); Apollo 11 lands on the moon with astronauts Neil Armstrong, Michael Collins, and Buzz Aldrin (July 20, 1969); first woman in space, Sally Ride (June 18, 1983); first African-American in space, Guion Bluford (August 30, 1983); *Challenger* explosion, killing six astronauts and teacher, Christa McAuliffe (January 28, 1986); first African-American woman in space, Mae Jemison (September 12, 1992); and other events.

Using what they have learned about the work and training of astronauts, have students work in small groups to design a space station. Each group will need to decide the purpose of its station—is it a living space, a temporary stopping-off spot, a research facility? The groups will also need to identify the location for their station—on a planet or moon, orbiting the Earth, traveling through the solar system? They will need to decide how people on their station will eat, sleep, work, and enjoy recreation. Have groups sketch a floor plan for their station that includes all the areas they feel are necessary. As they think about the materials and supplies with which they will stock their stations, they might start by listing items that are necessities for life versus things that are primarily for comfort or enjoyment. Allow each group to share its space station.

Organize the classroom into a tour of the solar system. Each student assumes a role she/he must research, such as one of the nine planets, the sun, Earth's moon, a comet, a galaxy, a star, an asteroid, a constellation (this might be a group of students), and others. From their research findings, students plan about two minutes of information they can share when they are spotlighted on the tour. Set up the chairs in the classroom in "tram" formation, and invite other classes, parents, and school personnel to take the tour. (Students might also wish to make posters advertising the tour.) To make the tour even more fun, turn off the classroom lights after the guests are seated, and have individual students illuminate their faces with a flashlight as they speak.

Plan a field trip to an observatory or a planetarium. Take the trip as a culminating activity to the research on space and the students' projects so they are well informed at the time of their visit.

Investigate the work of an astronomer. Begin by brainstorming with the students a short list of interview questions (4-5), such as: "How did you learn to

become an astronomer?”, “Where do you do your work?”, “What different jobs do you have in your work?”, and the like. Locate appropriate resource people who would be able to answer the students’ questions. Try a local college or university, museum, planetarium, observatory, or the World Wide Web. Ask school staff and students’ parents for names of people who study astronomy as a hobby. Give students the option of face-to-face interviews, letter writing, or e-mail in order to find the answers to their questions. Compile all the interview data on a chart and draw conclusions about the education and work of an astronomer.

Working in small cooperative groups, have students write a commercial advertising planet Earth. Before they begin, brainstorm the wonderful attributes of living on Earth, such as places, events, celebrations, the people, the beauty of nature, and others. Let students decide how they want to present their commercials. Encourage them to make a visual aid, such as a poster or book, to “sell” Earth to potential visitors from space.

Provide all sorts of art materials, including different types of papers and containers and such items as yarn, glitter, ribbon, fabric trims, buttons, pom poms, pipe cleaners, wooden craft sticks, etc., and have students design their own versions of a space alien. If space is available, line up the aliens in the hallway outside the classroom, headed for the door. Have students make a “Welcome Space Aliens” sign for the door.

#### **RELATED THEMES:**

exploration  
space travel

#### **RELATED READING RAINBOW PROGRAMS:**

Program #27 — Alistair In Outer Space  
Program #100 — June 29, 1999  
Program #115 — Archibald Frisby

#### **ABOUT THE AUTHOR & ILLUSTRATOR:**

Edward was James Marshall’s middle name. He published several books under the name of “Edward,” including *Three By the Sea*, a **Reading Rainbow** feature book. A native of San Antonio, James Marshall studied music before he turned to art. Best known for such characters as George and Martha, Viola Swamp, and the Stupids, his cartoon style of art is immediately recognizable by children. Several of James Marshall’s books have been featured on **Reading Rainbow**, including *Three By the Sea*, *Miss Nelson Is Back*, *Fox on the Job*, *The Piggy in the Puddle*, and *Nosey Mrs. Rat*.

#### **BOOKS REVIEWED BY CHILDREN:**

ASTRONUTS: SPACE JOKES AND RIDDLES  
compiled by Charles Keller, illus. by Art Cumings (Prentice-Hall)

IS THERE LIFE IN OUTER SPACE?  
by Franklyn M. Branley, illus. by Don Madden (HarperCollins)

LEGEND OF THE MILKY WAY  
retold and illus. by Jeanne M. Lee (Henry Holt)

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY BOOKLIST:**

WAN HU IS IN THE STARS  
by Jennifer Armstrong, illus. by Barry Root (Tambourine)

THE U.S. SPACE CAMP BOOK OF ASTRONAUTS  
by Anne Baird (Morrow)

THE MAGIC SCHOOL BUS GETS LOST IN THE SOLAR SYSTEM  
by Joanna Cole, illus. by Bruce Degen (Scholastic)

BLAST OFF! A SPACE COUNTING BOOK  
by Norma Cole, illus. by Marshall Peck III (Charlesbridge)

FLOATING HOME  
by David Getz, illus. by Michael Rex (Henry Holt)

THE PLANETS  
by Gail Gibbons (Holiday House)

STARGAZERS  
by Gail Gibbons (Holiday House)

BLAST OFF! POEMS ABOUT SPACE  
selected by Lee Bennett Hopkins, illus. by Melissa Sweet (HarperCollins)

UFO DIARY  
by Satoshi Kitamura (Farrar, Straus & Giroux)

POSTCARDS FROM PLUTO: A TOUR OF THE SOLAR SYSTEM  
by Loreen Leedy (Holiday House)

PEOPLE  
by Peter Spier (Doubleday)



Items in SPACE CASE. â€¦ Shadow Daggers Slaughter. â€¦ Shadow Daggers Fade.Â  Click on the case and then click "Open Case". Our algorithm will randomly pick an item for you and you will see a notification overlay which will show you the item you have won. Where can I find my Trade URL? Created by Peter David, Bill Mumy. With Walter Jones, Kristian Ayre, Rahi Azizi, Paige Christina. One day at an academy, 7 people sneak aboard a mysterious spaceship. The people consist of 5 students, who are Harlan, the athletic leader from earth; Catalina, the Saturnian rainbow-head with a sonic scream; Bova, the negative sour-pus Uranian who can generate electricity; Rosie, the happy Mercurian who radiates heat; and Radu, the Andromedan with super strength and hearing; the other two people The characters aren't just personifications of ~uwu so woke look at me being the best kind of person who has logical no flaws whatsoever or ~l~m an overly exaggerated worst case scenario doucher who somehow suffers no real consequence~ like these characters are douchebags and they know it and flaunt it and also suffer for it.