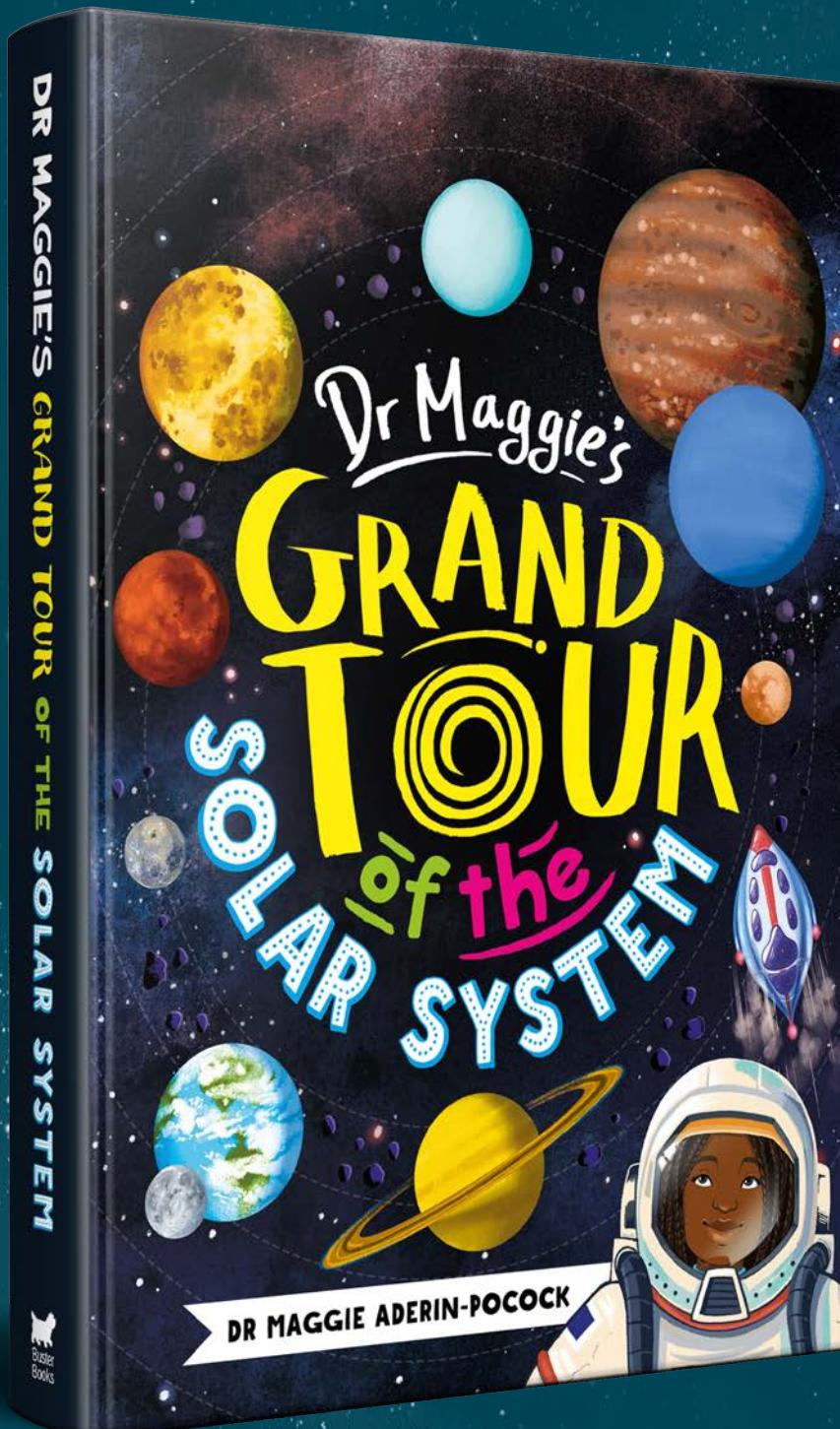


LEARNING RESOURCES

DR MAGGIE'S GRAND TOUR OF THE SOLAR SYSTEM

Written by Dr Maggie Aderin-Pocock MBE

Illustrated by Chelen Ecija



THEMES:

Space Travel
Following Your Dreams
Exploration and Discovery

SUITABLE FOR:

Ages 9 to 11
Year 4 to Year 6



DESCRIPTION

Join leading space scientist Dr Maggie Aderin-Pocock (MBE) on an epic adventure through the Solar System, visiting the most magnificent sights and spectacles that outer space has to offer. Hold on to your helmet and get set for the cosmic trip of a lifetime.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR:

Dr Maggie Aderin-Pocock is a space scientist and pioneering figure in communicating science to children and adults. She is committed to inspiring new generations of astronauts, engineers and scientists by demonstrating that you 'don't need a brain the size of a small planet' to understand, participate in and enjoy science. In 2009, Dr Maggie was appointed an MBE for her services to science and education.

Hi! My name is Dr Maggie. I am a space scientist and I have always wanted to leave the pull of Earth's gravity and travel around the Solar System. With this book, we can take a journey that no human or machine has made before, travelling right to the edge of the Solar System and making it home in time for tea. Along the way, we will visit planets, moons, asteroids and satellites, climb the largest volcano in the Solar System and have a snowball fight on Mercury.

It's going to be EPIC.

So, what are we waiting for? Fasten your seatbelt and get ready for lift off ...



THEMES



SPACE TRAVEL

The first human being to travel into space was Yuri Gagarin in 1961. Since then, humans have set foot on the Moon, travelled further into space than ever before and lived for long periods of time in orbit on spacecrafts like the International Space Station. According to NASA, the first person who is going to land on Mars is alive today.

FOLLOWING YOUR DREAMS

What do you want to be when you grow up? Dr Maggie got the space bug from a very young age. As a child, she was fascinated by the Moon landing and always wanted to journey into space and travel around the Solar System. Dr Maggie followed her childhood dreams and is now a world-renowned space scientist.

EXPLORATION AND DISCOVERY

With one small step for man and one giant leap for mankind, adventure and discovery are at the heart of Dr Maggie's Grand Tour of the Solar System. Along with Dr Maggie, we travel to places where no human has ever been before and venture to the edge of the Solar System. Think about all that is yet to be discovered ...

ACTIVITIES AND DISCUSSION POINTS

- Choose a planet in the Solar System. Imagine you've landed on that planet. What do you see? Is it cold? Is it hot? Is it big? Is it small? Write a short description of your first day on the planet.
- Try to imagine what the mysterious Planet Nine might be like. Don't forget to give it a proper name!
- Choose one of the pioneering space people from pages 116 to 117. Put together a short presentation on them and all of their incredible achievements in space science.
- What are your dreams? What would you like to do when you're older? Make a list of the different jobs that you can do when you grow up.
- In 1969, Neil Armstrong became the first person to set foot on the Moon. Look at some photos of the Moon landing and research what happened. Why did they go? How did they get there?
- Take a look at the spaceship that Dr Maggie has designed for the tour on page 17. Now, design your very own spaceship. What special features does it have?



DR MAGGIE'S GRAND QUIZ OF THE SOLAR SYSTEM

Take this cosmic quiz to test your knowledge of our Solar System.

1. The largest volcano in the Solar System is on Mars. What is the volcano called?

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2. Our Solar System is a tiny cog in a GARGANTUAN galaxy. What is our galaxy called?

.....

3. In what year did astronauts Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin land on the Moon?

.....

4. Earth is located in a special area of the Solar System in which the temperature is just right for liquid water to exist. What is this area of the Solar System called?

.....

5. What type of star is our Sun?

.....

6. Mercury is the closest planet to the Sun. What surprising substance might you find in one of its craters?

.....

7. Where is the Asteroid Belt found in the Solar System?

.....

8. What is the Great Red Spot on Jupiter?

.....

9. What are Saturn's rings made of?

.....

10. How many moons around Saturn have been discovered so far?

.....

11. What makes Uranus different to any of the other planets in the Solar System?

.....

12. What is the tallest cliff in the Solar System called and where would you find it?

.....

13. Where would you find the dwarf planets Pluto, Eris, Haumea and Makemake?

.....

14. Who gave Pluto its name?

.....

15. A gigantic zone of icy objects is thought to surround the entire Solar System. What is this zone called?

.....

SPACE SHUTTLE

Follow the steps to make this model:

- Colour it in if you like
- Cut along all the solid outlines
- Fold along the dotted lines
- Apply glue to all the green areas marked GLUE

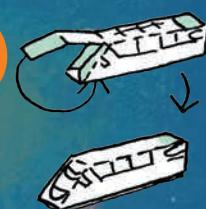
1



GLUE

Fold the fuselage and nose and then glue the fuselage into a square tube.

2



Put glue on the nose tabs. Then fold the nose over the end and glue in place.

3



Fold the tail fin as shown above, then glue it in place on top of the fuselage.

4



Glue the fuselage on to the wings.

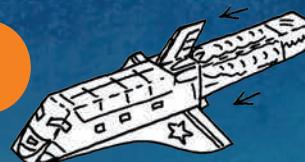
5



Fold and glue the launcher into a square tube.



7

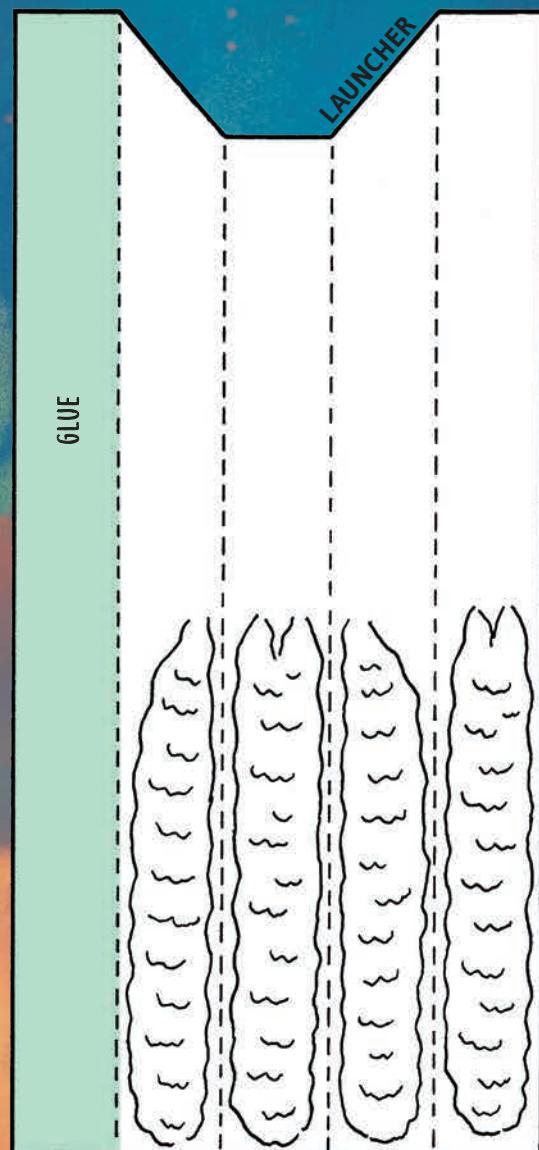
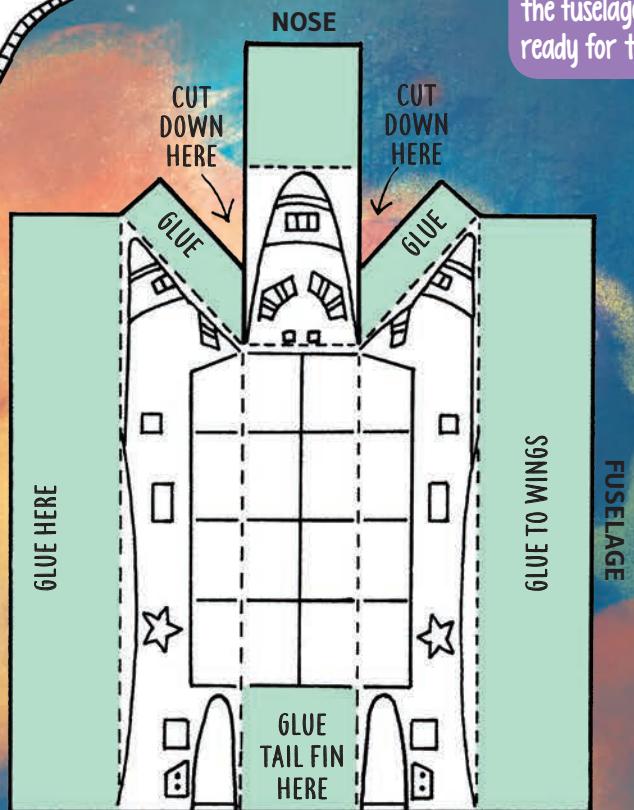


Insert the launcher firmly inside the fuselage. Your shuttle is ready for take-off.

6



Waterproof the end of the launcher with sticky tape.



Space Shuttle project
taken from Flight School
© Mike Barfield



Go on your very own
space adventure in
Dr Maggie's Grand Tour
of the Solar System.



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DR MAGGIE'S GRAND QUIZ OF THE SOLAR SYSTEM

ANSWERS

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| 1. Olympus Mons | 9. Different-sized objects made mainly from water ice and a bit of rock |
| 2. The Milky Way | 10. 62 |
| 3. 969 | 11. Uranus spins on its side |
| 4. The Goldilocks Zone | 12. Verona Rupes on Miranda, one of Uranus' moons |
| 5. A G-type star | 13. In the Kuiper Belt |
| 6. Water ice | 14. An 11-year-old girl, called Venetia Burney |
| 7. Between Mars and Jupiter | 15. The Oort Cloud |
| 8. A giant storm | |

