



Astronomy Storytime

*pick which books and rhymes you are most comfortable with
books have age recommendations next to them
for 0-2 year olds, pick 1-2 books and 2-3 rhymes
for 2-5 year olds, pick 2-3 books and 2-3 rhymes*

Many rhyme examples can be watched on YouTube.

Break up multiple books with rhymes.

Using the same Hello and Goodbye song every storytime helps your families get ready for storytime and signal the end. Use whatever song you currently use or try the suggested ones included.

Introduction: I'm ____ and I am so happy to see you all! You are just the kids I hoped would show up today.

Expectations:

We know that for some of you, this may be your first storytime. For others of you, maybe you've been coming for a long time. Either way, we are all learning how to listen and follow directions.

I have planned an interactive storytime, but a successful storytime for you could be making it through 1 or 2 activities. I encourage you to keep coming even if today doesn't go as well as expected.

AND...Storytime is for everyone, including adults. Please participate fully because your willingness and enthusiasm exemplify for your child that joining in is not about "performing" but having fun.

Hello: "I Wake Up My Hands"

I wake up my hands with a clap, clap, clap

Clap, clap, clap, clap, clap, clap

I wake up my hands with a clap, clap, clap

And I wiggle my waggles away.

(...feet with a stomp...belly with a beep...etc.)

Book: *Ten Twinkly Stars* by Tiger Tales (ages 1-3)

OR

Book: *Big Mooncake for Little Star* by Grace Lin (ages 3-5)

*Caldecott Honor book

*talk about the phases of the moon and what the moon looks like right now

OR

Book: *Moon: A Peek-Through Picture Book* by Britta Teckentrup (ages 3-5)

*another phases of the moon book

Fingerplay: Four Little Stars

Four little stars
winking at me.
One shot off,
then there were three!

Three little stars
with nothing to do.
One shot off,
then there were two!

Two little stars
afraid of the sun.
One shot off,
then there was one!

One little star
alone is no fun.
It shot off,
then there was none!

Book: *Our Solar System* by Little Hippo Books (ages 1-3)

OR

Book: *Field Trip to the Moon* by John Hare (ages 3-5)

*this is a wordless picture book where you & the kids can create your own story based on what you see in the pictures.

**suggestions, naming the main character makes it easier to tell the story

Parent Tip: Musical rhythms and rhymes encourage spontaneous movement that strengthens the child's body and helps to develop sensory control. Large movements, such as those in our next rhyme, "Zoom, Zoom," are called gross motor skills.

Rhyme: "Zoom, Zoom"

spoken "Put on your spacesuit. We're going to the moon!"

(pretend to step into pants, zip up your suit, and put on your helmet)

"Climb aboard your rocket ship." (clap hands together)

Zoom, zoom, zoom (*rub hands together*)

We're going to the moon.

Zoom, zoom, zoom

We're going to the moon.

If you want to take a trip

Climb aboard my rocket ship.

5, 4, 3, 2, 1 Blast off!

(*as you count down, get lower and lower, then jump up on "Blast off!"*)

Caregivers can toss kids into the air if they want (kids' favorite part)

spoken "We went to the moon, now let's go to the sun! The sun is very hot and bright. We'd better put on some sunglasses and sunscreen."

(pretend to put on sunglasses and rub sunscreen on face)

"I think we're ready! Climb aboard your rocket ship." (clap hands together)

Fun, fun, fun

We're going to the sun

Fun, fun, fun

We're going to the sun

If you want to take a trip

Climb aboard my rocket ship.

5, 4, 3, 2, 1 Blast off!

* "We went to the moon, then we went to the sun, now let's go to the stars! The stars are very far away, we should pack a snack. What should we bring?"

(ask kids for suggestions for a few snacks and something to drink)

"Put all our snacks in our rocket ship! Now climb aboard."

(clap hands together)

Far, far, far, we're going to the stars...

Rhyme: Space Action Song (*tune of "London Bridge"*)

The planets spin around the sun,
Around the sun, Around the sun.
The planets spin around the sun,
We live on the earth!

The sun is found in the middle,
In the middle, In the middle.
The sun is found in the middle,
It keeps us warm!

The stars are twinkling far away,
Far away, far away.
The stars are twinkling far away,
Now make a wish.

Announcements: Other storytimes, programs, or services.

Goodbye Song: "It is Time to Say Goodbye to all My Friends"

(*tune of "She'll be coming 'round the Mountain"*)

It is time to say goodbye to all my friends.
It is time to say goodbye to all my friends.
It is time to say goodbye,
Give a smile. Wink your eye.
It is time to say goodbye to all my friends.

OR

Goodbye Song: "Open, Shut Them"

Open, shut them, open, shut them,
Give a little clap, clap, clap.
Open, shut them, open, shut them,
Lay them in your lap, lap, lap.
Wave them, wave them, wave them, wave them,
High up in the sky, sky, sky.
I'll wave to you, you'll wave to me.
Let's all wave good bye, bye, bye!

Ideas for using the Flannelboard:

One way to use felt pieces is to introduce the vocabulary in a song or story. For example, before we sing Zoom, Zoom, Zoom I put up the rocket ship. Then I ask kids if they are ready to go on an adventure. How will we get there? I point to the rocket ship and we say it together. Where should we go? I put up the moon and get kids to tell me our destination. Next we warm up our engines (rub our hands together). All of that vocabulary frontloading is done with the felt pieces before we sing the song. After the song, you can put up the other pieces and talk about other planets you could go to or what you might see on your journey.

Ideas for using the telescope:

Put pictures of planets or stars around the room and let kids use the telescope to find them.

Ideas for using the non-fiction books & Outer Space Ring:

Allow kids to look at the books and cards, talk about how the planets look, how they are the same, and how they are different. Talk about how people tell stories about the stars and the pictures they make in the sky (like clouds).

Rocket Ship

Ages 2–8



This craft allows kids to use different types of mediums and an interactive space ship—it swings from the string to look like its flying in space across the planet.

Suggested runtime: 20-30 minutes.

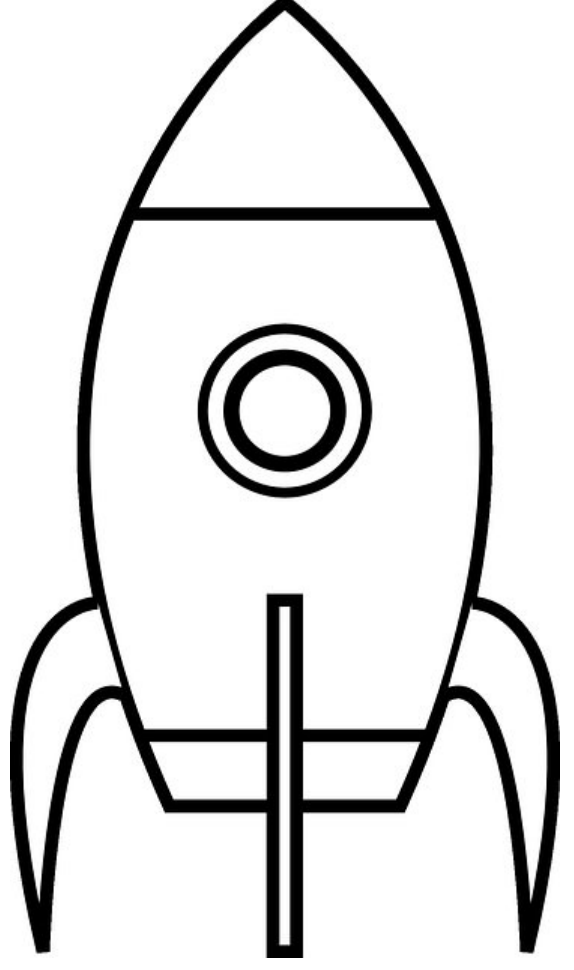
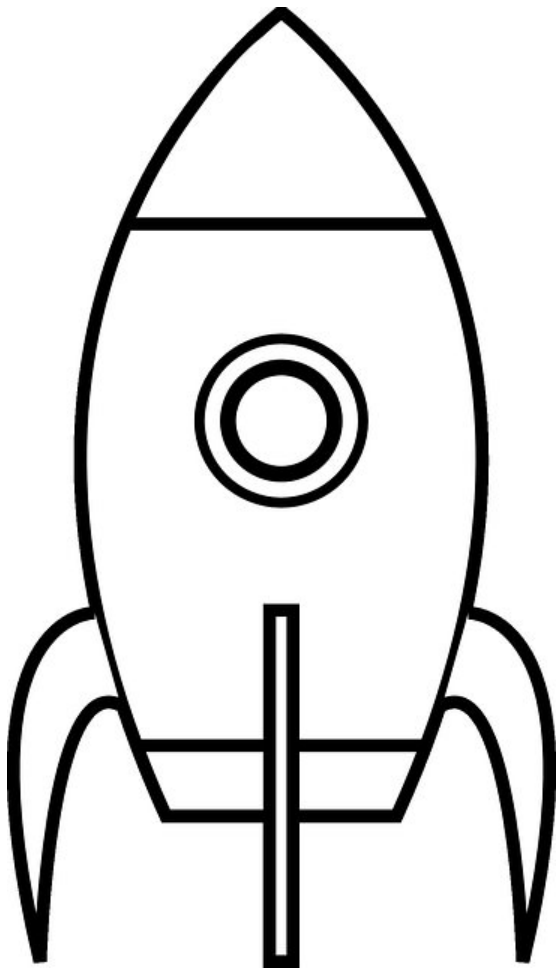
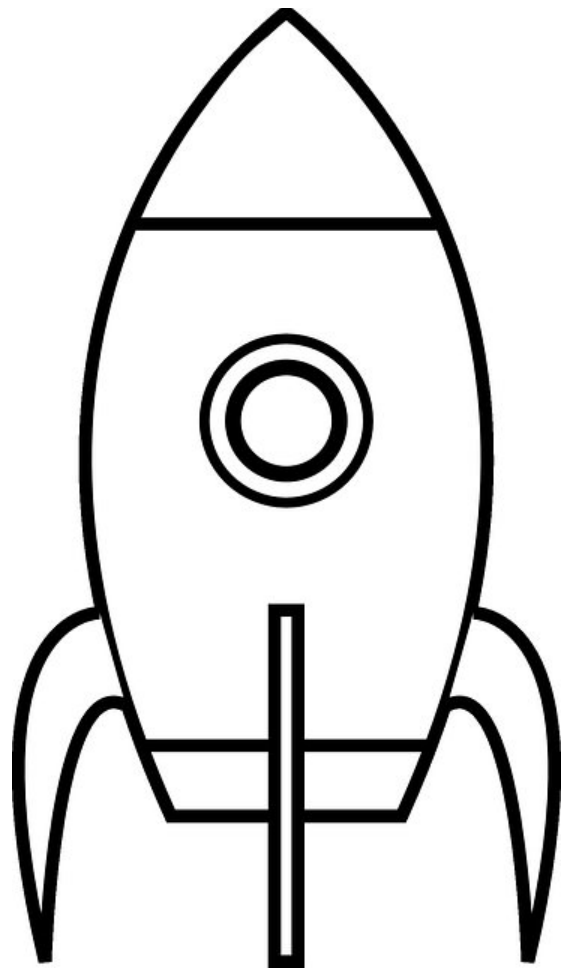
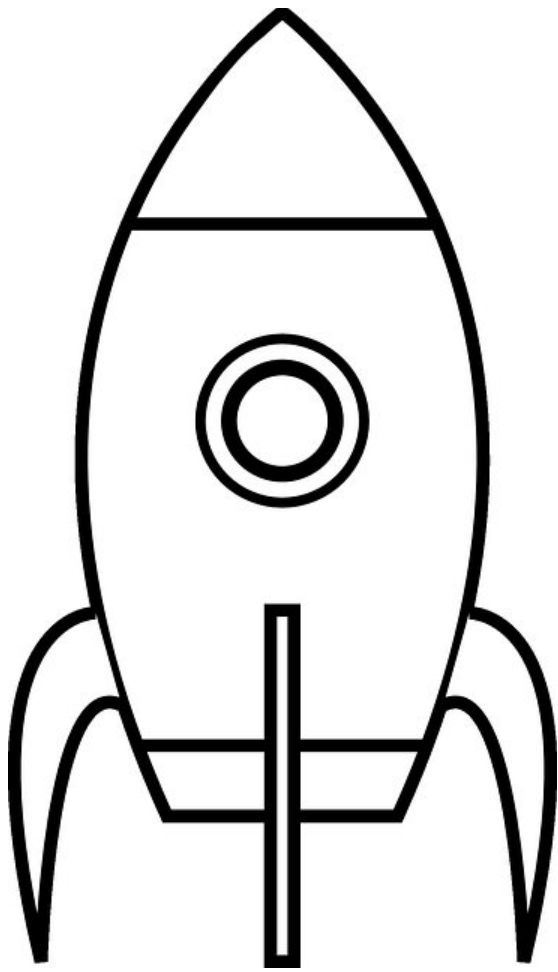
Materials:

- White construction paper
- Black construction paper
- Bubble wrap
- Rocket template
- Coloring supplies
- Paint
- Tape & glue stick
- Toilet paper tubes
- Hand wipes (for messy hands)
- Scissors (for adult use)
- Star stickers (optional)
- String

Instructions:

- Draw a circle/trace a bowl on the white construction paper.
- Kids paint a color in the middle of pre-cut bubble sheets
- Stamped the bubble wrap onto the traced circles.
Repeat until desired effect is achieved.
- Dip toilet paper tube end in paint and stamp that over the bubble paint.
Let dry.
- Kids color the rocket ship however they want. Cut out.
- Cut out planets once dry and glue to black construction paper.
- Kids add star stickers.
- Attach rocket ship to string and string to back of black construction paper.





Flying Astronaut

Ages 2–8

This craft allows kids to use different types of mediums and an interactive astronaut.

Suggested runtime:
20-30 minutes.



Materials:

- Uncoated paper plates (2 per craft)
- Large foam plate
- Shaving cream
- Food coloring
- Popsicle sticks
- Astronaut template
- Ribbon or yarn
- Pipe cleaner
- Hand wipes (for messy hands)
- Scissors (for adult use)
- Tape
- Paper towels

Instructions:

- Cover the foam plate in shaving cream.
- Add a few dots of food coloring and let the kids swirl with popsicle stick.
- Place uncoated paper plate on top of shaving cream and push down a little. Pull straight off (it will be messy). Do twice for a 3D planet.
- Use the popsicle stick to scrap off the excess shaving cream.
- Kids color the rocket ship however they want. Cut out.
- Attached astronaut to pipe cleaner with tape and then between two plates.
- Add string to the top to hang it up and enjoy.



