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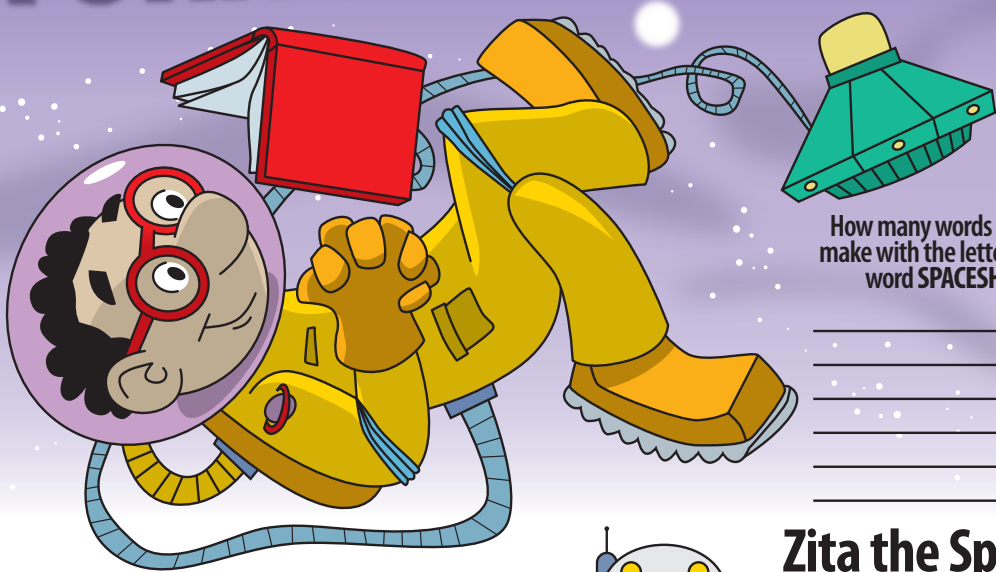
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A Universe of Stories

Before people actually went to outer space, they went there with their imaginations. Authors wrote about what they thought space and space travel was like. These books are called science fiction.

Science fiction books are often about the future, or they take place on other worlds. These books often feature machines and tools that didn't exist when the book was written. And sometimes there are interesting alien creatures!



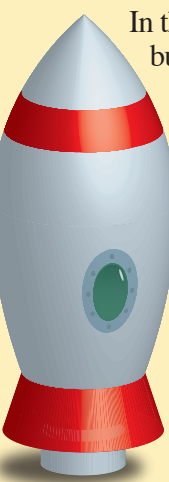
How many words can you make with the letters in the word SPACESHIP?

What Makes It Science Fiction?

Read about each of these books. Then check off the reasons each one is considered a science fiction book.

From the Earth to the Moon

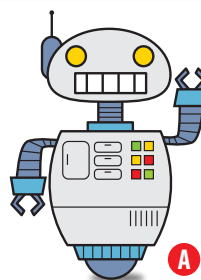
By Jules Verne



In this book, written in 1865, three men build a giant cannon called the *Columbiad* to launch themselves to the moon in a bullet-shaped capsule. Jules Verne called the *Columbiad* a "spaceship." Some people say that this was the first time in history that the word spaceship was used.

This book is science fiction because it:

- Takes place in the future.
- Takes place in another world.
- Features technology that didn't exist when this book was written.
- Has alien creatures.



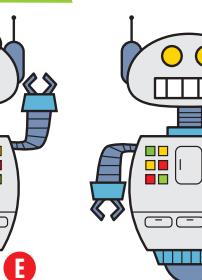
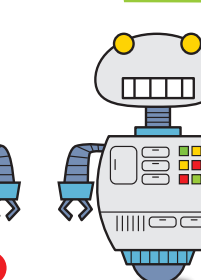
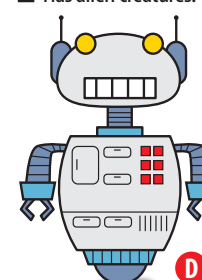
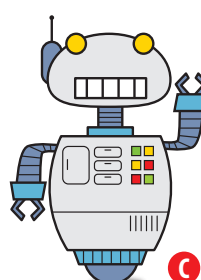
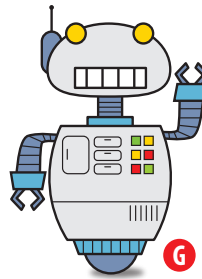
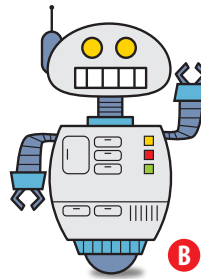
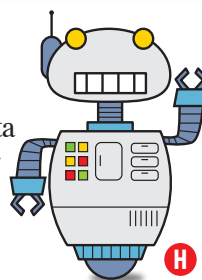
Zita the Spacegirl

By Ben Hatke

In this 2011 book, an earthling named Zita is transported to a mysterious planet after her friend is kidnapped by an alien. She leaps to the rescue but has to deal with humanoid chickens, angry robots, weird creatures with tentacles, a friendly giant mouse, and the impending destruction of the planet she's standing on. Wow!

This book is science fiction because it:

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- Takes place in another world.
- Features technology that didn't exist when this book was written.
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FIND THE TWO IDENTICAL ROBOTS.

The Wonderful Flight to the Mushroom Planet

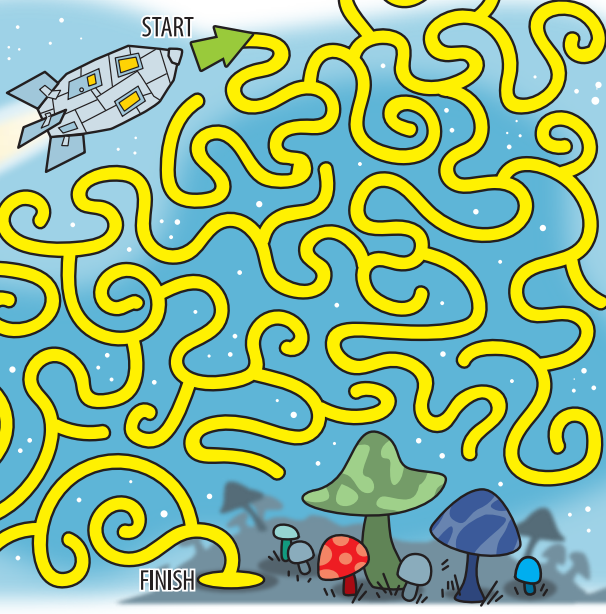
By Eleanor Cameron

This book, written in 1954, follows two boys who respond to a newspaper advertisement looking for a homebuilt spaceship. They build one out of tin and scrap wood and bring it to the advertiser. He makes a few modifications, gives them special fuel, and tells them they must visit the mushroom planet.

They must have a mascot to be successful, he warns, so they grab a chicken and blast off into space!

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- Takes place in another world.
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Extra! Extra!
Can you imagine that?

Some things that were imagined by people years ago are real today. Look through the newspaper with an older family member. Ask your family member if they can find anything in the paper that was not invented when they were children.

Standards Link: Research: Use the newspaper to locate information.

Kid Scoop® Puzzler

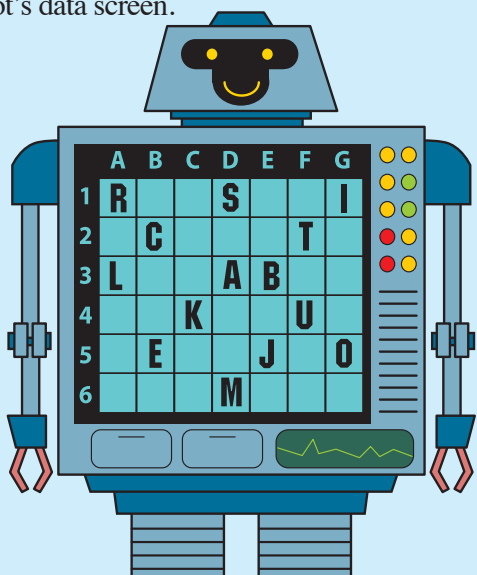
Giggle Grid

To reveal the punchline to this riddle, fill in the blanks using the letters found on this robot's data screen.

Q: What kind of books do planets like to read?

B, 2 G, 5 D, 6 B, 5 F, 2

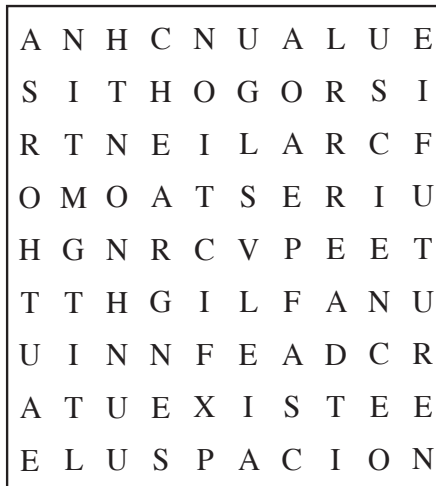
E, 3 G, 5 G, 5 C, 4 D, 1



Double Double Word Search

UNIVERSE
SCIENCE
FICTION
STORIES
CAPSULE
AUTHORS
LAUNCH
FLIGHT
FUTURE
SPACE
ALIEN
EXIST
GIANT
READ
TIN

Find the words in the puzzle. How many of them can you find on this page?



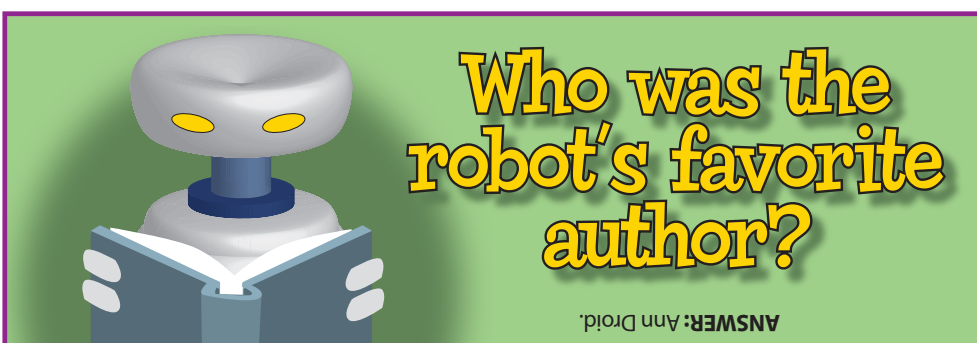
Standards Link: Letter sequencing. Recognized identical words. Skim and scan reading. Recall spelling patterns.

FROM THE Kid Scoop® LESSON LIBRARY

Fiction is Fun

Cut out three photos from the newspaper. Newspapers are non-fiction, but think about how these pictures could all be part of one fictional story. Write a short story that includes the people, places and things in the photos.

Standards Link: Research: Use the newspaper to locate info.



Who was the robot's favorite author?

ANSWER: Ann Droid.

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