



Interstellar Cinderella

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Illustrated by: Meg Hunt

In this futuristic rhyming retelling, Cinderella dreams of fixing rocket ships. With a little help from her fairy godrobot, Cinderella is going to the ball. But when the prince's ship breaks down, someone will have to zoom to the rescue!

Lexile: 500 **AR Level:** 3.1

Author Website: <http://www.deborahunderwoodbooks.com/page21/page21.html>

Illustrator Website: <http://meghunt.com/interstellar-cinderella>

Other Websites/links: <http://www.chroniclebooks.com/blog/2015/06/17/ms-meghan-makes-galactic-crafting-with-interstellar-cinderella/>

Food: use wooden skewers to create fruit rockets by cutting watermelon pieces into small triangles. Put on skewers, then add a banana slice and ¼ pineapple ring. Or use star cookie cutter for cookies, cutting sandwiches, or cutting watermelon slices.

Realia: bring in a tool box with socket wrench, and other tools.

Nonfiction Title:

Arnold, Tedd. *Fly Guy Presents Space*.

Aylmore, Angela. *I Like Outer Space*.

DK, *DK Readers Level 2 Spaceships and Rockets*.

Gross, Miriam J. *All About Rockets*.

Introduction: Ask students to review story of Cinderella and main characters of story. Then ask them to imagine if the story took place in outer space. Depending on readiness of students, you might also introduce the genre of science fiction. From www.readwritethink.org the definition of Science Fiction is: "Science fiction is a genre of fiction in which the stories often tell about science and technology of the future. It is important to note that science fiction has a relationship with the principles of science—these stories involve partially true- partially fictitious laws or theories of science. It should not be completely unbelievable, because it then ventures into the genre fantasy." In simpler words: science fiction is a made-up story which has some true, futuristic science and/ or technology in it.

In this story, Cinderella is a mechanic. Introduce the job of mechanic, and the importance of good tools for the job. Use the illustrations on the front and back inside covers as a visual aid.

For younger students, do a picture walk through the story to review new vocabulary and the fact that this is a rhyming book.

Story time Activities:

In subsequent story times, read other versions of Cinderella. Compare and contrast similarities and differences. Create a chart and let students tally their favorites. Possible books: Yeh-Shen: A Cinderella Story from China by Ai-Ling Louie, The Rough-Face Girl, by Rafe Martin, Adelita: A Mexican Cinderella Story by Tomie dePaola, Cinderella by James Marshall, Bigfoot Cinderrrrrella by Tony Johnston or Cinderella Penguin, or, The Little Glass Flipper by Janet Perlman.

Create rockets by using old water bottles and paint or construction paper to let students decorate their rocket. Glue construction paper triangles to the bottom, precut circles for windows or red strips of tissue paper to the bottom to be more creative.

Make your own planets out of dough. Use modeling clay or make your own. Planets can be flat on construction paper, or 3D round. Use toothpicks to turn a class' planets into a solar system by sticking them into blocks of Styrofoam. Clay recipe:

Emily's Fantastic No Cook Playdough Recipe

- 2 cups of plain/all-purpose flour
- 1 cup salt
- 1 cup cold water
- 1 tbspn oil (vegetable oil is fine - baby oil smells lovely).
- Food color.
 - See more at: <http://www.homeschooling-ideas.com/how-to-make-clay.html#sthash.e7Ea8lu6.dpuf>

Students can recreate the "Prince's Space Parade" by drawing and coloring their own aliens in spacecrafts. Have students share their creations or create a mural by fastening all their drawings to black or dark blue butcher paper.

Write down the rhyming words from the book on 3" x 5" cards. Shuffle cards. Hand out 1 to each student. Have students walk around and find their rhyming partner. Make it easier by using colored markers and writing the rhyming words in the same color or adding a shape to the corners of rhyming cards.

Discussion Questions:

1. What are some of the science fiction, futuristic things in this story?
Possible answers include: Murgatroyd the robot mouse, robot dishashers, zoombroom, spaceship, rockets, fairy godrobot, sonic socket wrench, etc.
2. Who was Cinderella's friends in the story? How did they help her?
Possible answers include: Murgatroyd the robot mouse, who sent out an S.O.S. and freed her from the rope, or the prince, who liked rocketships, took her to the ball and hired her as mechanic. The fairy godrobot was also a friend who gave Cinderella her tools and spacesuit.
3. In the story, Cinderella goes to the Gravity-free ball. Do you think it would be fun to float in space? Why or why not?
4. If you had a fairy godrobot, what would you wish for?
5. The sonic socket wrench was Cinderella's special thing. It helped the prince find her. What would be your special thing that would help someone find you?