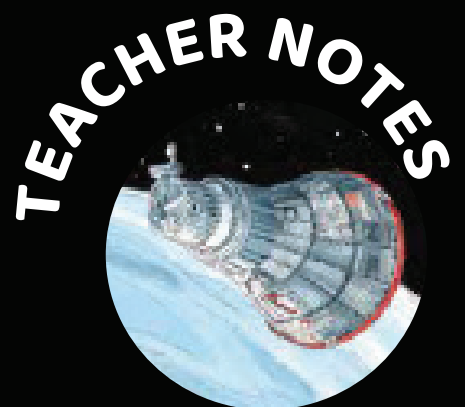




City of Light

Julia Lawrinson · Heather Potter & Mark Jackson



Blurb

We are small.

The world is big.

The universe is biggest.

An astronaut from the other side of the world will fly over our home, at night.

We will see a tiny light and we'll know its him.

But will he be able to see us?

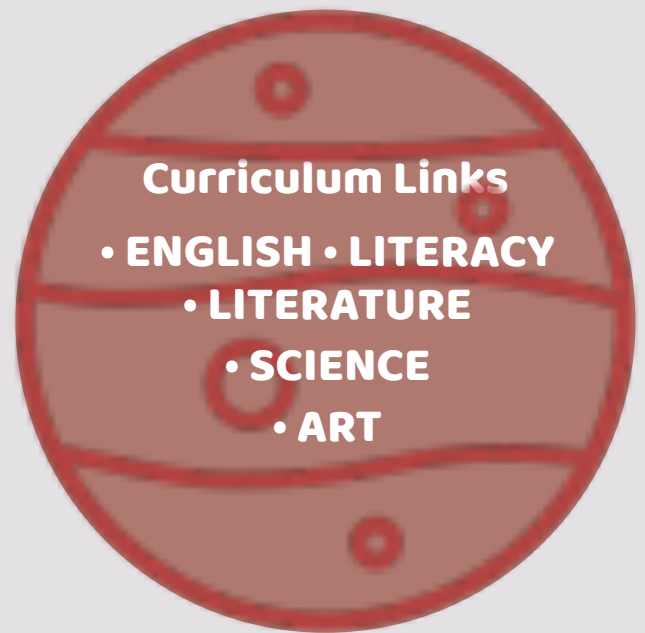
One girl, one boy?

Specifications

Authors:	Julia Lawrinson
Illustrators:	Mark Jackson and Heather Potter
ISBN:	9781742036304
Format:	260 x 270mm
Extent:	40pp Self-ended
Binding:	Hardback
RRP:	\$24.99
Category:	Juvenile Non-fiction



**Australian
Curriculum
Outcomes
Foundation
to Year 4**



Curriculum Links

- ENGLISH • LITERACY
- LITERATURE
- SCIENCE
- ART

Study Notes

- history • space
- Earth • astronauts
- science • community
- change • the past
- family • home

About the Author



Julia Lawrinson

Julia Lawrinson has written more than a dozen books for children and teenagers, many of them award-winning. She grew up in the outer suburbs of Perth, Western Australia, not long after the first moon landing. She loves dogs, oceans, and sunsets, and still likes to gaze at the night sky, just in case.



Writing style

The *City of Light* is focalised through the eyes of two young children, featuring simple and direct language and short sentences that add to the sense of urgency of their endeavours.

The book is suitable for emerging readers to read alone and to be shared with younger children.

About the Illustrators



Mark Jackson & Heather Potter

Mark Jackson and Heather Potter are illustrators and frequent collaborators whose works have been featured in several exhibitions. They are the recipients of many awards, including the CBCA Book of the Year Award, the Wilderness Society Environment Award for Children's Literature, the Speech Pathology Australia Book of the Year Awards, and Indie Book of the Year Awards.



Illustration style

The illustrations in *City of Light* captures a slower-paced, community-focused era. Each page is filled with intricate details that provide readers with rich information about life and society in the early 1960s. The soft colour palette ties in with the theme of space, while also representing Perth during the summer of 1962.



Before Reading

Discuss

- Introduce the idea of space travel. Ask children to share what they know about space and space travel.
 - What is space?
 - What is in space?
 - How do you travel in space?
 - What do you call the people who go to space?
 - When do you think people first started to travel in space?
 - What might the astronauts be able to see from their spaceships?
- Note any questions for further investigation sparked by the discussion.

Examine the cover

- Examine and discuss the cover with the children.
 - What clues does the cover give about the book?
 - Why might the cover be dark?
 - Why are the children holding torches?
 - Can you guess the setting?
 - When and where might the story be set?
 - What clues does the cover give to support your ideas?
- Discuss the clues about the book. Ask students to share their reasoning.
 - Is this a picture book or a nonfiction book?
 - What genre might it be?
 - Where might students find this book in the library?
- Help students identify the title of the book, author, illustrators and publisher.
 - Discuss each person's role in creating a book.
 - Which of these roles would students prefer?
- Discuss the book's title, *City of Light*.
 - What clues does it offer readers?
 - What questions does the title prompt?

The Blurb

Read the blurb.

Our city is big. The universe is bigger.

An astronaut from the other side of the world will fly over our home, at night.

We will see a tiny light and we'll know it's him.

But will he be able to see us?

One girl, one boy?

A true story.

- Does the blurb change students' ideas about the book or confirm them?
- Do the blurb and the cover change the children's idea about the book?

Audience

- After examining the cover and reading the blurb, ask students who they think the book is written for and why they came to that opinion.

After Reading

- Discuss the students' reactions to the book.
 - What did they discover?
 - How accurate were their guesses about setting and the plot?
 - What did they enjoy about the book?
 - What surprised them?
 - What would they like to learn more about?

Title

- Ask students to share what they think of the book's title, now that they have read the story.
 - What else could the book have been called?

You Can't Judge a Book by It's Cover

- Introduce the saying 'You can't judge a book by its cover'.- Ask how cover prepare readers for the content of the book?



- After reading *City of Light*, ask students if they think the cover suits the book? Ask them to explain their opinions.
- Would the students change any aspects of the cover?
- What would they change and why?

Endpapers

- After reading the book, return to the end papers.
 - How did the endpapers prepare readers for the story?
 - What do the endpapers remind students of?
 - Why might the illustrators have chosen to only highlight certain words.
- Visit the following Trove articles published before Glenn's orbit and after.

Pre-flight

- <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/104921208?searchTerm=Perth%20orbit%20astronaut%20lights>

Post Flight

- <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/201861038?searchTerm=John%20Glenn>
- <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/104923896?searchTerm=Perth%20orbit%20astronaut%20lights>
- <https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/104925123?searchTerm=Perth%20orbit%20astronaut%20lights>

- Compare the articles to the endpapers.
 - How are they similar and how are they different?
 - Why have the illustrators chosen to use pictures of Glenn and the rocket, when neither are included in the actual newspaper articles?
 - Ask students to imagine that the endpapers were really a newspaper. Which would the students be drawn to read, the endpaper newspaper or the actual articles? Why?

Newspaper Article

- List the words and phrases highlighted in the end papers.

Cape Canaveral, America, today, John Glenn, orbit, earth, around, space, beautiful, sight, goes up, sent, Australia, weather, astronaut, Perth, light, weather, goes up.

- Discuss the words meaning and how they are used.
- Children create either a class or individual newspaper article using the words from the endpapers.

Pages 8 & 9, and 12 & 13, 20 & 21

- Examine the illustrations on both pages.
 - How are the places depicted (lounge room, park, city) in *City of Lights* similar to and different from today?
 - List differences and similarities and discuss.
 - How might the images look if it was representing modern Australia?

Pages 10 & 11

- Discuss the 'huge things, giant things' listed – the Pyramids, Amazon River, Grand Canyon.
 - Where on earth is each feature found?
- Visit Google Earth.
 - Visit and explore each of the places listed.
 - Using Google earth, view Australia from above.
 - o What Australian sights might be visible from space?
 - o What features stand out in your school's state?
 - o Find Perth on Google Earth and compare the illustration on page 27 with Perth today. Does it seem different? How?

Pages 16 & 17 and 18 & 19

- Revisit both of these spreads. Discuss with students how the two children spread the news about turning on the lights.



- How might the children spread the news today?
- What problems might they face?
- How would the sharing of news be easier and harder in today's world?
- In *City of Light*, the community uses torches, lanterns and turn on their lights at home. What might you use today to light up your city or town?
- Watch the following video which features actual footage and John Glenn's comments about the flight, recorded years later in 2012. Select sections suitable for the class's year level and share these with the students. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QGA16MczCrw>
- Discuss the video, focusing on what it might take to become an astronaut. Encourage students to think about education and personality traits.
- Each of the *Friendship 7*'s orbits took about 90 minutes. John Glenn saw the sunrise three times in 4.56 hours. Play children the scene about the orbit. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QGA16MczCrw> (7.33)

Page 34 & 35

- Compare this illustration with the images of John Glenn featured in this online article. <https://www.vox.com/2016/12/8/13893058/john-glenn-space-sunsets>

• Mirrors

(The final image at the end of the article depicts Glenn with mirrors on his chest and wrists.)

- Discuss with children the reasons why he might have had to wear the mirrors.
- Watch the following video from 5.45 where John Glenn explains why he wore mirrors. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QGA16MczCrw>
- How does his explanation compare to the children's speculations?

John Glenn

Colonel John Glenn was a soldier, an astronaut and American senator.

- Play students the YouTube video entitled 'Senator John Glenn talks about his Friendship 7 space flight'.

Report

- Break students into groups of 3. Allocate each group a topic about Glenn's life. Groups research that topic and select a suitable photo of Glenn that relates to their topic.
 - Collate the class's images and information to create a report for display in the classroom.

Questions for Author and Illustrators

- As a class, discuss why the author might have been inspired to write a book about this incident, and how the illustrators have interpreted the story.
 - What questions would the students like to ask Julia Lawrinson, Heather Potter and Mark Jackson? Encourage children to use the attached worksheet to record their questions.



Student Name: _____

City of Light Questions for Julia Lawrinson, Heather Potter and Mark Jackson

WHAT ?

WHEN ?

WHERE ?

WHY ?

WHO ?



Writing

- Imagine you are John Glenn, orbiting the earth three times in nearly five hours.
 - Write about your experiences.
 - Remember to include what you might see and what you might feel.
- Imagine a space craft will fly over your town or city at 9.30 at night in a month's time.
 - In groups of three or pairs, decide the best way to light up the area.
 - Write a script for an advertisement encouraging the community to be involved in lighting up the city or town.
 - Once you have written the script, create a video to encourage people to turn on their lights. Be as creative as you like.

Technology/Art

- Create a piece of art similar to pages 22 & 23.
 - As a class examine pages 22 and 23.
 - Discuss how the illustrators might have created that image.
 - Allow students to use a variety of techniques, including paint washes and collage, to create an image of their street or home at night.
 - Students could:
 - o On white paper, paint wash of blues and black to create the background of a night sky.
 - o Use a splatter technique on the upper part of the background to create stars.
 - o Create buildings, washing lines, cars on the street and power poles from black and other coloured card.
 - o Finish with by adding a moon.

Drama/Art/Technology

Dramatic Play

- For younger children, create a space play centre for the classroom, similar to this one.
<https://earlylearningideas.com/space-dramatic-play>

Drama

- In pairs or small groups, children create short dramas using the following scenes from City of Light as prompts.
 - Pages 14, 15, & 16 – sharing the plan to light up the city.

- Page 15 – conversation with Mum and Dad
- Page 20 – Mum's reaction to the burnt sheet.

Straw Rockets

Create rockets to launch in the playground. These can also be used in measuring activities for maths.

You will need.

- Paper straws
- Tape or glue
- Straws with a larger diameter than the other straws.
- Textas, pencils, crayons, glitter, paint etc for decoration.
- Straws with a larger diameter than the other set of straws.
- Scissors
- Rocket Template

• Directions

1. Print the rocket templates on white card.
2. Students colour and decorate rockets then cut them out.
3. In pairs, children cut a larger straw in half.
4. Each student attaches, with tape or glue, one straw half to the back of the rocket.
5. Cover the top end of the straw with tape to create a seal.
6. Slip the paper straw into the straw taped to the rocket.
7. To launch the rocket, aim your rocket carefully and blow into the paper straw.

There are many YouTube videos that demonstrate

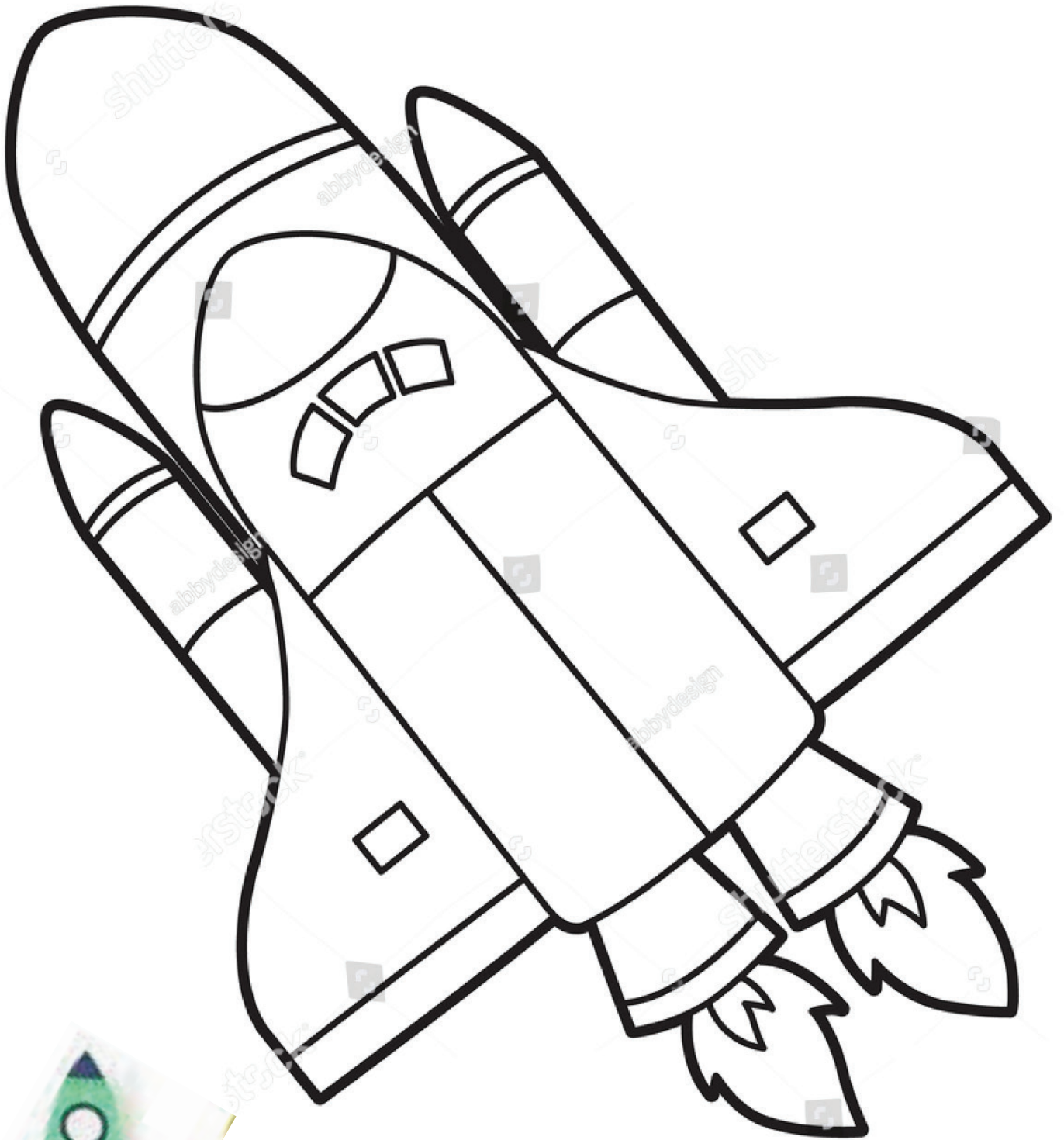
different straw rocket styles.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4LMk0I-usZeU>



ROCKET TEMPLATE

Colour in this rocket template and cut out to make your rocket model.



The finished rocket on a straw

