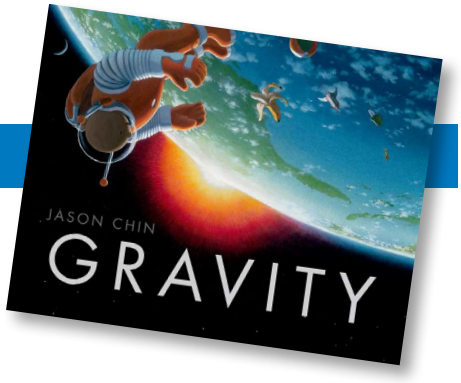
Gravity



A RIF GUIDE FOR PARENTS AND FAMILIES

Themes: Physics, Forces, Space

Book Brief: A simple look at the concept of gravity through the use of children's toys and a "what if" scenario.

Author and Illustrator:
Jason Chin

TIME TO READ!

Before reading, build background knowledge: Have you ever heard the word *gravity* before? What do you think it means? How does the cover illustration help you know what gravity is or how it works?

While reading, make connections: What happens when you throw an object up in the air? Have you ever seen a video or pictures of astronauts floating in space? What connections can you make between gravity and magnets?

After reading, ask questions:

- Why is the force of gravity important?
- Describe the difference between mass and size.
- What happened to the items the children were using in the story?
- Could this really happen in real life?
- Explain what gravity is in your own words.

RELATED ACTIVITIES

GRAVITY PAINTING

Materials: clipboard, white paper, water, paint, paintbrush

Watch gravity in action as you paint! Dip your paintbrush in paint and then water. Clip a sheet of white paper to the clipboard. At the top of the paper, paint a line. Hold the clipboard up and watch what happens to the line. How is gravity affecting the paint? Paint another line. What happens if you turn the clipboard? Continue until you have created a gravitational masterpiece.

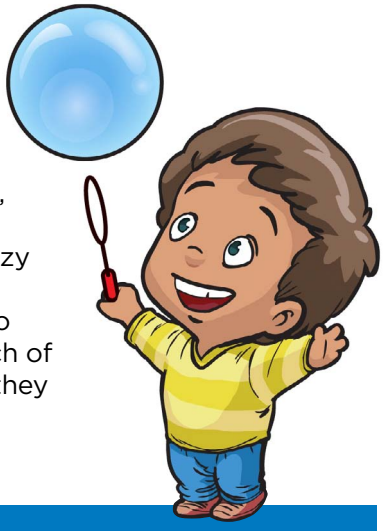
UP, UP AND AWAY

Materials: helium-filled balloon, paper clips

Guess how many paper clips it will take to create enough mass to pull the helium-filled balloon to the ground. One by one, attach paper clips to the balloon's string. Watch the changes that take place as you add weight to the balloon. How many paper clips did you need to pull the balloon down?

BUBBLE BLOWING

Observe gravity while blowing bubbles! When you blow bubbles, notice how they float and go in all kinds of crazy directions. Eventually, unpopped bubbles fall to the ground. Blow a bunch of bubbles and see where they land. That is gravity!



ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

OTHER BOOKS BY THIS AUTHOR

Water Is Water (2015)
Coral Reefs (2011)
Redwoods (2009)

RIF
Reading Is Fundamental