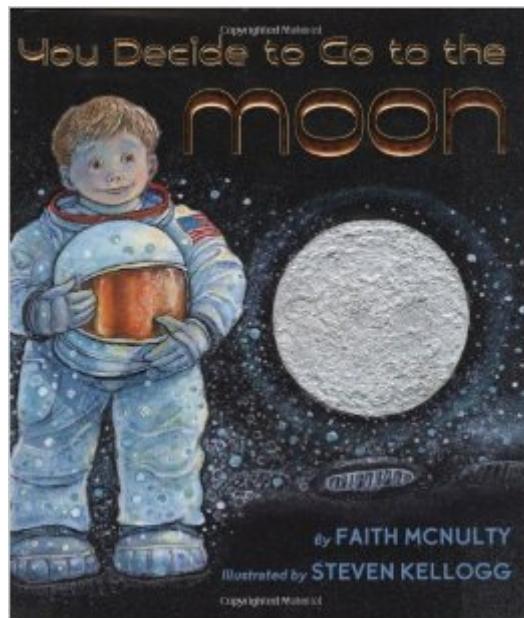


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# If You Decide To Go To The Moon



## **Synopsis**

Two artists at the height of their powers have created a beautiful book with an unforgettable message about the moon and an even more important message about the earth. A publishing event!"If you decide to go to the moon," writes Faith McNulty, "read this book first. It will tell you how to get there and what to do after you land. The most important part tells you how to get home. Written in the second person, the text allows the reader to participate in every aspect of the journey, from packing ("don't forget your diary and plenty of food") to liftoff (at first you'll feel heavy; don't worry") to traveling through space (where "the moon glows like a pearl in the black, black sky"). The reader lands at the Sea of Tranquility, the site of the first lunar landing

## **Book Information**

Lexile Measure: 690L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 48 pages

Publisher: Scholastic Press; 1st edition (October 1, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0590483595

ISBN-13: 978-0590483599

Product Dimensions: 0.2 x 10 x 11.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (58 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #34,904 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #19 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Astronomy & Space > Aeronautics & Space #29 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Astronomy & Space > Astronomy #40 inÂ  Books > Science & Math > Astronomy & Space Science > Aeronautics & Astronautics

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## **Customer Reviews**

This book arrived at our library last week, and I was immediately blown away by it! Faith McNulty and Steven Kellogg have done a great job of showing and telling children what a trip to the moon would really be like. One thing that is great about this book is the way experiences and things that are familiar to children are used to describe extraordinarily UN-familiar experiences and ideas. The book is written in the second person point of view -- directly addressing the reader. I thought it was

brilliant the way McNulty captures what a child's (or anyone's) feelings might be as they hurtle through the dark expanse of space, far away from the comfort of Earth and home. ("Up here in space you may feel very alone. Don't look back at the Earth. It would make you even lonelier.") Kellogg illustrates a variety of moods, experiences and concepts from eye-catching perspectives. There is whimsy: an astronaut floats weightlessly around inside the capsule amidst a swarm of playing cards, and, later in the book an unexpected herd of hypothetical moon cows makes an appearance! There is quite a lot of loneliness in Kellogg's space: A lone astronaut hops around and explores the strange, barren, black and grey moonscape for several pages. In a compelling two-page spread, Kellogg depicts a lone astronaut, standing on the Moon under a lonely black sky -- the scene is printed with the darkest jet black ink I have EVER seen printed in any picture book. At the end of the journey, the astronaut returns to an exuberant fold out frieze of Earth's magnificently varied biodiversity, under a shining sun and clear sky with children swimming in fresh, clear water -- the essential element that makes our planet habitable. I was especially pleased to see this book, since another excellent children's book about the Moon, E.C. and Robin Krupp's book, *The Moon and You*, is not readily available anymore. I highly recommend this book for any elementary school library, or for the book collections of Kindergarteners to second graders. I also would not be surprised if it wins some children's book awards in the months to come.

This is a beautiful book that my 3 year old loves, but, despite being appropriate for a 3 year old, it is a pleasure to read to him, because it is full of provocative ideas that adults enjoy. I suspect we will both continue to enjoy it for years to come. It is a great companion to 'On the Moon' by Anna Milbourne and Benji Davies, which is essentially a re-telling of the Apollo mission for kids, whereas this book is a re-imagining of the Apollo mission. It follows an imaginary modern journey to the Moon, where, among other things, the young astronaut finds the flag left by the Apollo astronauts blown over by their blast off, and re-erects it. It ends by comparing the richness of life on Earth, made possible by air and water, to the desolation of the Moon. It is also beautifully illustrated.

My 7 year old son loves this book and I learned a few new things too. It's about a boy who is going to the moon. You learn that you will travel 240,000 miles to get there and if you average 3,750 mph you will arrive in 2 1/2 days. There is no air, clouds, or rain in space. Once you arrive you will float like a feather. You can't drink out of a glass, you must use a squeeze bottle. The moon is covered with rocks and craters. Some craters are hundreds of miles across. Everything on the moon is a silvery gray. If you weigh 60 pounds on Earth you will weight 10 pounds on the moon. Each step

takes you five times further than when you step on Earth. If you don't wear a space suit, the heat will burn you up. There is no wind or rain to erase your footprints and when you walk it's like walking in cake flour.

I read a previous one star review and decided to check the book out from the library before purchasing. I concur there was a spelling error and after checking out the definition of meteor, found the one star reviewer was correct. **HOWEVER**, the errors seemed minor compared to what really stood out in a positive way: the author's description of what an astronaut actually thinks and **FEELS!** My 6 1/2 year old granddaughter loved the story and asked me to buy her one, which I have. I really enjoyed the story, too. I felt it told of the journey to the moon from a very human point of view, maybe even from a child's point of view - something we still are deep inside. You can point out the errors, but what I think readers will take away from this book is a sense of personal connection to space flight and astronomy.

It's okay, but I found it rather annoying that the little boy gets to go to space while his sister has to stay home behind the "astronauts only beyond this point" sign. I'd stay away from this book if your little girl is interested in space, although it is indeed quite charming if you can look past the gender roles.

My daughter (5 y/o) has developed a passion for space ships and has been creating them out of cardboard boxes for months. I purchased this for her at Easter and we have read it a dozen times since. If she keeps this up there will be a space suit and helmet under the tree at Christmas.

My 8yo son is really enjoying this book. Instead of reading to him he is reading it to me, which is nice. The language is fairly basic with only some more difficult words for this age level. But that's good as it is expanding his vocab. And it's a nice story as well. Well done!

The descriptions are neat. I enjoyed a few of the details and learned something new myself. Stephen Kellogg's illustrations are wonderful as usual. The descriptions were wonderful but at times it feels like the author's name should be "Incredibly concerned parent about child actually going to space". A few lines of it were awkward and seemed like scare tactics to not want to go. The end was weird too. The whole book is about going to the moon and the last page about loving the earth and the things that live on it. Which is a wonderful message but it felt out of place considering the

moon was always going to be a visit throughout the book and suddenly it was like, "But you don't want to live there".

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