

# Eight Days Gone

## A RIF GUIDE FOR COMMUNITY COORDINATORS

**Themes:** Astronauts, Space, Exploration

**Grade Level:** K to 2nd grade

**Book Brief:** The author uses descriptive words and rhyme to recount the first trip to the moon by three brave astronauts.

**Author:**

Linda McReynolds

**Illustrator:**

Ryan O'Rourke



## TIME TO READ!

**Before reading:** Find out what the children know about space travel. After a brief discussion, tell them this is a rhyming book about the first time astronauts landed on the moon. Read through the book once and then go back and reread to discuss sequence and answer any questions children have about vocabulary.

## RELATED ACTIVITIES

### CRATER CAKES (AGES 5-8)

Ingredients: rice cake, cream cheese, powdered sugar, cocoa powder, jelly bean

Liberally spread cream cheese over rice cake. Sprinkle the cream cheese with powdered sugar mixed with a little cocoa powder. Place a toothpick in the jelly bean. Use the jelly bean to make "craters" in the cake. Enjoy! (Snack can also be made without sugar and cocoa.)

### RECYCLED ROCKETSHIP! (AGES 5-8)

Materials: paper towel tubes, white paper, black construction paper, aluminum foil, red/yellow streamers, markers, tape, scissors

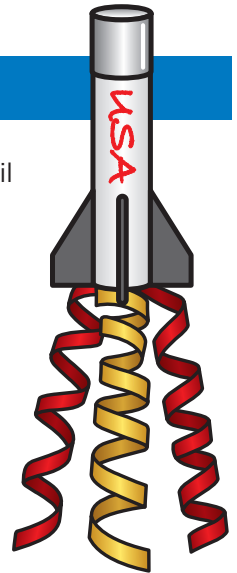
Give each child a tube. Have them wrap the white paper around the tube and tape to seal. Cut wings from the black paper and attach to the tube. Cut strips from the red and yellow streamers and attach

to bottom of tube. Use aluminum foil to make top of rocket. Secure with tape. Markers can be used to write USA on side of rocket.

### MOON SAND (AGES 5-12)

Materials per small group: 6 cups play sand, 3 cups cornstarch, 1 1/2 cups cold water

Have children break into groups. Provide the following directions for making moon sand: "Mix cornstarch and water until mixture is completely smooth. This will take several minutes. Then use your hands to mix in the sand one cup at a time." Have each child take a turn doing one of the tasks. Encourage discussion about the consistency of the mixture. After playing with the moon sand, store in an airtight container.



## ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

### OTHER BOOKS ABOUT THE MOON

*Moon Landing: Apollo 11 40th Anniversary Pop-Up*, Richard Platt and David Hawcock (2008), *The Moon Book*, Gail Gibbons (1998), *Moon Over Star*, Dianna Hutts Aston (2008).

### TECHNOLOGY LINK FOR KIDS

[www.rif.org/kids](http://www.rif.org/kids)

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