

# A Planet is a Poem

## READ ALOUD GUIDE

**Themes:** Planets, Poetry, Space

**Book Brief:** This book combines science and poetry, using 14 unique poems to explore the solar system. Each poem reflects a celestial body's essence while sharing fascinating astronomical facts. Perfect for curious minds, it brings space to life in a creative and engaging way.

**Author:**  
Amanda West Lewis

**Illustrator:**  
Oliver Averill



## BEFORE READING

**The Cover:** Have students make predictions about the story based on the cover.

**The Pictures:** Take a brief picture walk and ask students what they notice about the book.

**Prior Knowledge:** Ask students, "What do you know about our solar system?"

**Vocabulary:** Frontload Tier 2 words using the accompanying [Vocabulary Guide](#).

**Purpose for Reading:** "As we read today, listen for facts in each poem about our solar system."

## DURING READING

Check for understanding & make connections:

- After reading each poem, explore its meaning and discover why the author chose that specific poetic form. Then, lift the flap to uncover exciting facts about the planet and insights into the author's creative choices. This interactive experience helps readers connect poetry with science in a fun and engaging way!

## AFTER READING

**Our Purpose:** Select a planet poem from the book and list facts that you learned about that planet.

**Extend Our Thinking:** Using [RIF's Figurative Language Chart](#), have students identify and determine the meaning of figurative language in the poems.

If your students enjoyed this book...

- Encourage them to continue to discuss it and refer to it in other lessons and conversations.
- Let them explore more poems with the [Poetry Collection](#).