

Interstellar Cinderella

A RIF GUIDE FOR EDUCATORS

Themes: Fairy Tales, Space, Science Fiction

Book Brief: This fun twist on a classic fairy tale is out of this world! The author uses a science fiction approach to spin the tale of a futuristic Cinderella who dreams of being a mechanic, not a princess.

Author: Deborah Underwood

Illustrator: Meg Hunt

Content

Connections: Science



TIME TO READ!



BEFORE WE READ, LET'S LOOK AT...

The Cover: What can you tell about the setting of this story based on the cover illustration? What about the title? What does interstellar mean?

The Pictures: Looking at the end papers and the cover page, what can you tell about Cinderella? What kinds of things do you think she's interested in?

Prior Knowledge: Discuss what the term science fiction means. What are some characteristics of this genre? Can students think of any examples of science fiction books, TV shows, or films? Ask how many students are familiar with the story of Cinderella. Have a few volunteers summarize the plot of their favorite version of the Cinderella story.

Vocabulary: planetoid, nebulae

Purpose for Reading: As we read, think of how you can compare this version of Cinderella with other versions of the fairy tale.

WHILE WE READ

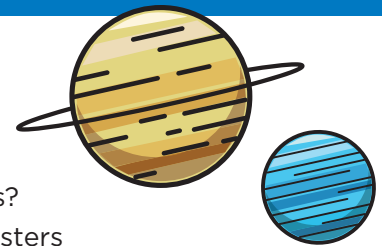
MONITORING COMPREHENSION

- ◆ What do you call stars in the sky that represent a shape?
- ◆ What do you notice about the mouse's tail?
- ◆ Why did they steal her toolbox?
- ◆ Do you think the socket wrench had special powers?

◆ Why do you think midnight is the chosen time for something to stop working in fairy tales?

◆ Why were the stepsisters threatened by Cinderella?

◆ What fulfilled this Cinderella's dreams?



LET'S THINK ABOUT

Our Purpose: Compare *Interstellar Cinderella* with as many other versions of the Cinderella story as you can. What plot points are the same in each story? What plot points are different? How are the characters alike or different? How does this Cinderella character compare to the other versions? Which Cinderella is your favorite and why? Draw a graph or chart on the board to help compare the stories.

Extending Our Thinking: What character traits describe *Interstellar Cinderella*? Look at the settings of two Cinderella stories. Which one would you be the most comfortable in? Explain. Why do you think there are so many versions of our favorite fairy tales? Do you think it's fun to read a new version of a classic story, or would you rather read a story that's totally new? Discuss your answer with a partner.

NOTE TO EDUCATORS

- ◆ Extension Activities for Educators also available.
- ◆ Vocabulary Scaffolding Sheet also available.



Reading Is Fundamental