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Winnie in Space

★ **Theme:** Space and the solar system; going on an adventure ★

What you will need:

★ Drawing materials and paper, optional craft materials e.g. egg boxes and recycled materials for craft activity

Read the story together:

SPREAD 1

- Winnie is enjoying looking through her telescope. Do the children think Wilbur is interested in the stars or has he found something more fun to do?
- What kinds of creatures can they see that appear inside and outside Winnie's house at night?

SPREAD 4

- Get the children to count down to lift off
- Ask the children to make the rocket noise

SPREAD 5

- Wilbur is following Winnie on her space adventure, but is he happy about it? What would he say if he could speak?



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The rocket shot off the pad and into space. It went very, very fast. And it was hard to steer.

"Oops!"
Winnie nearly fell into a rocket.

"Oops!"
The stars were moving.

"Oops!"
That was a falling star!

"Meow!" said Wilbur.
He put his paw over his eyes.
"We had a lovely picnic for our picnic, Wilbur," Winnie said.
Wilbur popped out from behind his paw. There were little planets everywhere.

Activities

Art Lift off!

- Get the children to design a rocket that they would like to use to go on a space adventure. Don't forget to give it a name!
- Make a model rocket using recycled materials.

Science & History One small step

- Play footage of the first Moon landing to the class. Develop the discussion to talk about conditions in space. What does it feel like? Look at reference books about space to find out more.
- Use Winnie's mnemonic at the end of *Winnie in Space* to teach the class the order of the planets in the solar system (which also appear in order throughout the book). Make a space display or poster with the mnemonic on.

Literacy A great space adventure

- Get the children to create a story of their own space adventure: for younger readers this could take the form of a class discussion, from which they would gather ideas for a piece of artwork, while older children could write their own story. Use this (adapted) first line from *Winnie in Space*: 'I have always loved to look through my telescope at the night sky. It is huge and dark and mysterious.'

