



Space is very big. It's full of planets, comets, stars, and asteroids. People have gone into space and they have visited the moon!

CEFR Level A2  
 YLE Flyers  
 Text type: nonfiction  
 Word count: 633  
 Lexile measure: 520L

## Lesson objectives

### Vocabulary focus

Adjectives: *big, cold, difficult, hot, important, large, near, small, warm, windy*  
 Space: *asteroids, comets, clouds, fly, gas, ice, light, moon, planets, rings, rock, space, spacecraft, star, tail, travel, water*  
 General: *send, visit, robots*

### Grammar focus

Superlatives

### Reading skills

Identifying details

### Cross-curricular connections

Music (song)  
 Science (space)

### Resources

Reader  
 Activity Book  
 Flashcard download 1–13  
 Audio download (UK/US) tracks 1, 2, 3, 4

### Timing: 40–60 minutes

This is to be used as a general guide and will depend on group size, the pace of learning, and the children's language ability.

We would suggest 10 minutes for **Before reading**, 20 minutes for **During reading** and 10 minutes for **After reading**. Additional time can be used for further activities.

## Lesson plan

### Before reading

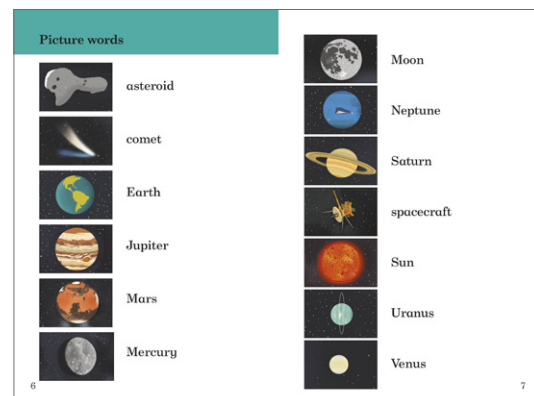
Show the children the front cover of the Reader and ask: *What can you see?* The children might know that it's space, or they might recognize the sun or the planets.

Then read out the title of the Reader and ask questions to find out what the children already know:

*What do you know about space? How big is space? What things are in space?*

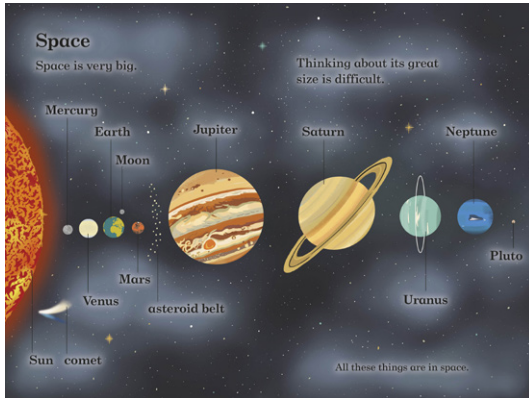
Ask the children to look at Reader pages 4–5. Ask them which words they know, and if they recognize any of the names of the planets.

Then display Flashcards 1–13 one at a time (in a random order) and ask: *What's this?* Encourage the children to try to match the Flashcards with the words on the Reader pages 6–7.



**During reading**

Read out or play the first part of the recording of the text (Audio track 1) and ask the children to follow in their Reader. Give the children time to look at the picture on Reader pages 8–9 and make sure that they understand that all these things are in space.



Continue to read or play the recording of the text. After every few pages, stop and ask questions to check the children’s understanding. Focus on identifying details, for example:

- What have robots done? What does the Sun do for people? Why can people only live on Earth?*
- What is Mercury made of? What are comets?*
- Is Venus very hot or very cold?*
- Is there any water on the Moon? What did people travel in to get to the Moon?*



Read out or play the recording of the text again. After every few pages, stop and ask the children to tell you an interesting fact that they have learned about space.

**After reading**

Display Flashcards 1–13 together and play a game to check the children’s memory and understanding. Describe something from the Reader, focusing on adjectives (superlatives where possible), and ask the children to work out what you are describing. Tell them that the answer is on one of the Flashcards. For example:

- It’s our most important star.*
- It’s the planet that is nearest to the Sun.*
- It’s the coldest planet.*
- It’s the windiest planet.*
- Charon is this planet’s biggest moon.*

To make the game more challenging, you could cover the words on the Flashcards. Ask some of the children to describe one of the Flashcards for the other children to guess.

The children can do the following activities to practice identifying details about space:

- Reader activities: 1, 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18
- Activity Book activities: 2, 5, 6 (Audio track 2), 7, 12 (Audio track 3), 13, 14

Play the song (Audio track 4) on Activity Book page 16 and encourage the children to follow in their book and sing along.

**Differentiation**

**Extra support**

Display Flashcards 1–13, so that the children can refer to the names of the planets and other key vocabulary when doing the Reader and Activity Book activities.

**Extension**

Fast-finisners can work in pairs and do Reader activities 13 and 19, and Activity Book activities 4 and 8. Then they can ask each other more questions about space, using the information in the Reader.