

Papa, Please Get the Moon

By Eric Carle

Suggested Grade and Interest Level: Pre-K through first

Topic Exploration: space, night-time, moon, science

Interactive features: This book has two page sized flaps, plus one double page flap for the very, very long ladder. The four page ladder really knocks the socks off the children.

There is a two page “pop out” spread of the moon which is even more dramatic and get young read aloud participants even more excited.

Skill Builders: Concepts: near, long, high, up, down, top, bottom. **Vocabulary:** very (adjectives) too, big (bigger) and small (smaller) (comparatives), ladder.

Synopsis: A small girl asks her father to get her the moon. He takes a very, very, long ladder to a high mountain to get it for her. It gets smaller and smaller until it disappears. It reappears in the sky growing larger and larger.

Method: Introduce the cover and have the children identify the moon and night sky. On the title page show them the moon sequence in the various stages of waxing and waning. Read the first page where it says, “I want to play with the moon.” Ask the children if they could really play with the moon. Try to see if they can reach the lights on the ceiling. (They can’t reach it.) Emphasize the word, “stretch.” Teach the word very by intoning the voice for a *very, very, very*, long ladder.

Use your hands in “brackets” to demonstrate bigger and bigger and bigger/ smaller and smaller and Most little ones will start imitating spontaneously (the gesture is an excellent mnemonic device.)

Extension Activities: Word count, shapes (star, circle, crescent), Sorting: have children sort stars and circles, Print out big, bigger, and biggest moons and stars to work on comparatives,

Related Books: Wake Up Moon, Good Night Moon