



# If You Were the Moon

*Laura Purdie Salas , Jaime Kim (Contributor)*

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If you were the moon, what would you do? You'd spin like a twilight ballerina and play dodgeball with space rocks! And more.

## If You Were the Moon Details

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# From Reader Review If You Were the Moon for online ebook

## Shiloah says

A creative way to teach children about the moon. Loved the full color and beautiful illustrations.

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## Carla Johnson-Hicks says

This is a really cute non-fiction book that teaches about the moon in a fun way. My grandson loves the moon and always looks for it in the sky. I read this book to him. He loved the illustrations and the fun things the moon does. He did not really understand the fact though. For primary students learning about the moon and solar system, this book briefly tells various facts about the moon relating them to things the moon does. It is easy to understand language. The illustrations are wonderful. They are large, colourful and beautifully done. This would make a great book for a classroom library. There is a glossary as well as further reading suggestions at the back. The publisher generously provided me with a copy of this book via Netgalley.

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## Gary Anderson says

A little girl reading in bed, on the verge of falling asleep, says hello to the moon and wishes she “could do exactly nothing, just like you.” The moon replies, explaining all the ways it is more active than it seems. The narrative can be read by focusing on the moon’s lyrical replies (“Hover near your mother ... Tease the Earth: peek-a-boo!”), but each of the moon’s answers is supported by a more detailed explanation of the science behind it, as well as beliefs about the moon from various cultures. The moon is friendly throughout, both in the text and in the illustrations as it reveals how being the moon is a lot like being a busy youngster.

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## Jessica ? says

*If You Were the Moon* combines a simple bedtime story with astronomy by comparing everyday children's activities with facts about the moon and its role. Beautiful illustrations will help hold a child's attention while an adult explains the science to them on each page. Designed for active reading, this would work well for bedtime reading for kindergartners and older, or in a classroom setting.

*I received this book via Netgalley in exchange for an honest review.*

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## Suzanne LaPierre says

On one level this is a bedtime story about the moon, but on another it’s an introduction to the science of astronomy. On the left of each page spread is the simple tale of a girl going to bed who chides the moon for “doing exactly nothing.” The moon explains itself in playful analogies, inviting children to imagine the moon’s activities as if their own. If you were the moon you would “hover near your mother” and “play

dodgeball with space rocks.” You would “Catch and throw. Catch and throw,” (a reference to the moon’s glow being caused by light “caught” from the sun and “thrown” back to Earth). The right side of each spread offers a scientific explanation of lunar phenomenon, such as cycles and gravity, or glimpse of how humans and animals experience the moon. Hatching sea turtles move towards moonlight; farmers around the world use moon phases to plan crops. The luminous cover illustration evoking the moon’s glow in the evening sky will be the first thing to have hands reaching for this book. Deep color-saturated illustrations, created with acrylic paint and digital techniques, capture the mystique of the moon at night and make this book satisfying to gaze upon, even for those little ones who may not yet grasp some of the more abstract explanations.

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## **Mischenko says**

Netgalley in exchange for honest review

Beautifully illustrated book about the moon and all the jobs it has. Just how important is the moon? The story is fun, yet full of facts to keep kids engaged.

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## **Tracey says**

If You Were the Moon tells the reader what the moon actually does while we’re all asleep. A small child wishes that she could be the moon, hanging out in the sky doing nothing. Each page then explains the moon’s purposes and how people on Earth celebrate it. Salas writes the facts while Kim draws the art. Salas did a good job using basic words for a younger audience. I’d recommend this for 4-5 year olds. It’d be a good read for any child interested in space. The tone is conversational and doesn’t feel too heavy for a child to read by themselves. Kim’s art is great; I personally disliked when the characters’ had their mouths open. It just looked weird to me.

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## **Jana says**

This beautifully illustrated nonfiction picture book shares information about the moon with young readers using lyrical text that reads like a poem. As a little girl is sitting up in her bed and considering the moon, the moon makes the case that it is far too busy to be just hanging in the sky, doing nothing. Each page has a line from the poetic narrative and factual information. The paintings that go along with each point are magnificent. This would be a great way to introduce this information to young readers, with this book as a starting point for further research. It could also serve as a great mentor text for informational writing.

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## **Gina says**

Interesting balance between being poetic and metaphorical about the moon and giving science about it, but the back and forth kept the book from being truly captivating.

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## **Maria says**

The Moon just sits there, inactive, doing nothing -- or does it? The Moon dances, plays, and hides. The Moon hovers, balances, and enlightens. The Moon keeps time, keeps the seasons, and inspires. Beautiful illustrations, a playful story, and education notes make this a delightful read. Wonderful typography clearly separates the science from the narrative.

\*Thank you to NetGalley for a digital ARC to review.\*

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## **Donna Merritt says**

Such a clever book! When a little girl complains to the moon that she wishes she could do "nothing" just like the moon, the moon's reply is priceless. Some of the moon's tasks are to "spin like a twilight ballerina" (spin on its axis), "play dodgeball with space rocks" (meteorites crash into it), and "light a pathway to the sea" (calling turtle hatchlings to the water—my favorite page!). I love the poetic feel of this book combined with the many interesting facts about our moon. Jaime Kim's illustrations are an added delight.

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## **Kristi Starr says**

An anthropomorphic moon demonstrates the many roles it plays. It steadies Earth, affects tides, inspires the arts, and informs practices and rituals. The book also describes how the moon moves, how its appearance has been impacted (literally!) by other objects in space, and its role in lighting the night sky.

Simple but charming illustrations compliment the content, and a glossary and list of materials for further reading make the book a worthy resource for elementary and middle-grade science teachers.

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## **Katie Dicesare says**

A conversation between a little girl and the moon about the many things the moon can do...with poetic responses from the moon followed by small bits of real information. Love!!

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## **Marissa Elera says**

A masterful blend of fiction and non-fiction. Really unique.

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## **Dianna says**

I adored this book about all the different things the moon does for us. I also liked the dual nature of the book: it can be a short bedtime story, or you can read the information about the moon for a longer, more

educational read. The illustrations are beautiful. Highly recommended!

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