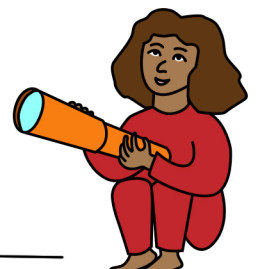


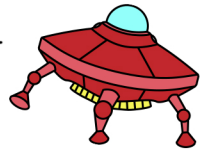
Patron: Dame Julie Walters



ZOOM! - Early Years Education Pack

With thanks to The Betty Riseley Trust.





Introduction

Dear Early Years Practitioners,

We have designed this pack to support and extend learning around your performance of 'Zoom!'.

As preparation for the performance, and to help stimulate further work we encourage you to look at the story of the play (below) and to visit our website where you will find a trailer, recordings of songs, and images. There are also illustrated and audio versions of the story of the play to share with your class.

'Zoom!' encompasses environmental themes, as well the themes of friendship and of learning to let go. The story provides a wonderful stimulus to learn more about stars and space. You can also find lots of ideas for using space as a curriculum theme in our [Early Years Education Pack for 'Star in a Jar'](#).

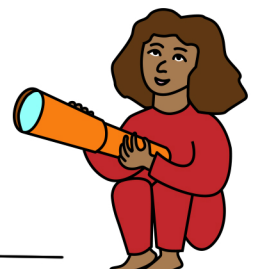
The activities which follow should be seen as open ended – allowing children to take their learning and play in new directions as they respond to the stimuli of the story.

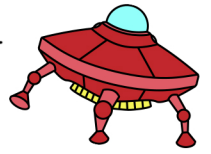
A separate KS1 pack is also available to download from www.piedpipertheatre.co.uk.

We hope that this pack provides a useful jumping off point; we'd love to see where it takes you.

Please do share any feedback with nicola@piedpipertheatre.co.uk

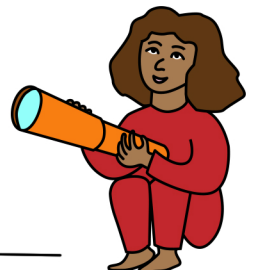
Caroline Herlihy and Nicola Sangster

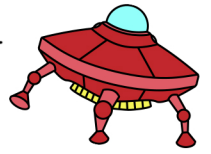




Contents:

The Story of the Play	3
Communication and Language; Literacy	5
Understanding the World	8
Personal, Social and Emotional Development	10
Expressive Arts and Design	11
Zoom Music	12





The Story of the Play

Illustrated and audio editions of this story for sharing with your class are available to download from the 'Teachers Resources' section of our website.

ZOOM!

It was a Friday night. Molly was looking through her telescope, and filling in her Star Diary. Molly's Star Diary was very important. It was the book where she wrote down all the stars that she saw each night.

Molly knew a lot about stars because when she grew up she wanted to fly into space.

Molly was about to go to bed when she suddenly saw something in the sky. She ran to her telescope. What was it? Whatever it was, it was going to land in the back garden.

Molly grabbed her coat. She crept outside. There was a loud banging sound and she ran to hide behind the biggest tree. The bushes moved; someone...or something...was there!

The something was walking and talking, but it didn't look or sound like anything Molly had ever seen before. It was a space creature visiting from another planet: Leelo from the planet Luniper.

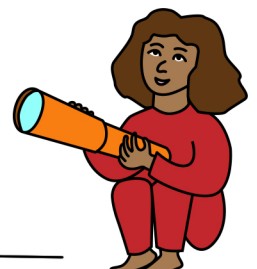
Leelo was carrying a broken part of a spaceship. It was the steering stick. When the spaceship crashed down to Earth, it had broken off. So had Leelo's most important spacesuit button...the button to start the whole spaceship.

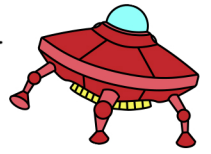
Leelo was very upset and began to cry; with the spaceship broken there was no way of getting home again.

Molly said she would help Leelo find a way to fix it in the morning.

The next day was Saturday and Molly couldn't wait to go outside and find Leelo.

Leelo had spotted the wheelie bin. Leelo was so excited to find the rubbish inside and tipped it out all over the lawn.





'Treasure!' Leelo said, picking up cardboard boxes and old milk bottles.

'Dad's not going to like this', Molly thought.

Leelo couldn't understand why we throw so many useful things away. On Luniper things were used again and again. Molly thought hard. Was there stuff that she threw away that could be used again? Suddenly she had a brilliant idea. Perhaps there was something that she could reuse to help mend Leelo's spaceship!

Molly rushed to the shed and came back with her rusty old scooter.

Leelo had never seen a scooter before. Molly showed Leelo how to ride on it. Whizzing around on the scooter was fun, but that wasn't what Molly had in mind...

'Leelo,' she said, 'I have an idea. My scooter's old and rusty. It comes apart and...look! This top bit looks just like your steering stick.' Leelo tied the bit from the scooter onto the spaceship with string. It was wobbly, but it worked. Now Leelo could steer the ship back to Luniper; but without a start button the spaceship would never get off the ground.

Molly had an idea. When Leelo had been sorting through the rubbish they'd found a milk bottle; maybe they could use the top for the start button? They tried it, but it was too small. Leelo was sad but then Molly had another idea.

On the side of her telescope was a round button. It looked just right for Leelo's spacesuit.

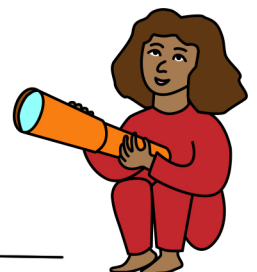
Molly knew that without the button her telescope wouldn't work, but she wanted to help her friend.

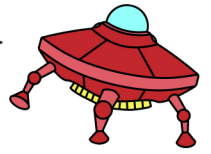
It fitted perfectly and Leelo was delighted.

It was time for Molly and Leelo to say goodbye. They would never forget each other.

Molly watched as Leelo's spaceship flew off into the sky, getting smaller and smaller.

The stars were shining brightly. It was a perfect night for star gazing.





Communication and Language; Literacy

Activity Charades

Leelo the Alien is able to speak many languages – but if we don't all speak the same language how can we make ourselves understood?

Can the children communicate with their classmates without speaking?

Sitting in a circle the group must try and guess the activity a volunteer has been given to act out.

(e.g. brushing teeth, combing hair, riding a bike, digging a hole, drinking a drink, reading a book, etc.)

Give clues if necessary. Some children may be able to come up with their own activity.

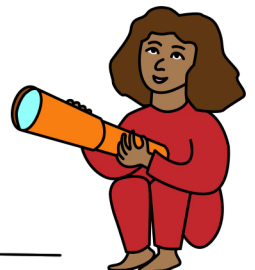
Perhaps the children can recreate actions from the play and see if their classmates can recognise and remember them:

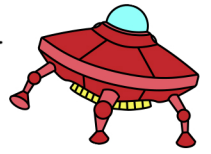
e.g. looking through a telescope, riding on a scooter, swinging on a swing

This can lead naturally to a discussion about the different ways we communicate and make ourselves understood, and languages including Makaton and BSL. If the children have no direct experience of sign language users the BBC character Mr Tumble uses Makaton signing and there is information [here](#). Perhaps the class could learn some signs together.

Keep a Diary

Molly keeps a star diary. Can the class keep a picture diary together for the week? It could be a diary of the weather, or class activities, even lunches!





Zoom Story Folder

A simple folder can be created to send home with a toy telescope, alien antennae, and a printed out story of the play and key words sheet. Other linked books could be included e.g.

The Smeds and the Smoos by Julia Donaldson

Here We Are / The Way back Home by Oliver Jeffers

Moon: Night-Time Around the World by Britta Teckentrup

Hello World! Solar System by Jill McDonald

Usborne's Look Inside Space

For children for whom English is their second language, include translations of key words in the child's home language in the story folder. (This may seem time consuming but is essential for EAL children to connect with the story.) Here are the key words and concepts within the story. You can find translations on google translate.

Zoom Key Words and Concepts

Telescope

Astronomer

Astronaut

Language

Earth

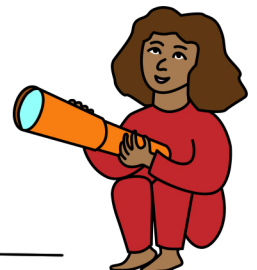
Rubbish

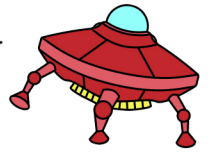
Recycling

Galaxy

Spaceship

Friendship





Zoom role play area

Set up a 'Zoom!' role play area to encourage children to immerse themselves in the story world.

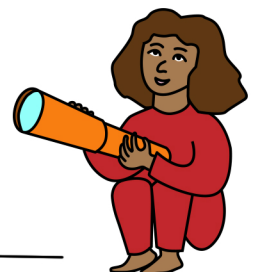
By involving the children in setting up the role play area, and listening to their suggestions they are more likely to engage with the activity.

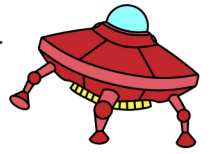
Photograph the area as it develops and children playing within the area.

Resources: Telescope, star charts, diary. 'Alien' dressing up clothes – e.g. metallic and shiny fabrics, headband antennae – anything which encourages strong and creative characterisation. What would the children suggest they need to create their alien personas?

The role of the adult is to observe how children engage, noting language, interaction, negotiation, co-operation, sharing, turn-taking and to model emotional coaching and sustained shared thinking to reflect on and develop ideas.

See the 'Star in the Jar' Early Years Pack for how to create a classroom 'Space Area' with suggested books.





Understanding the World

Imagining Another World

Contrasting with another world can help children make sense of our own, and give opportunity to discuss and explore their understanding of our own environment.

Use a circle discussion to share knowledge about other planets.

Show images of planets in our Solar System, or share the animated [Solar System Song](#).

How might other planets be different to earth?

Children will recognise varying colour and size – explain that they vary in temperature too, and what they are made up of – e.g. some are rock, some are gas.

Leelo comes from the planet Luniper. It's an imaginary planet made up for the story.

What do the circle think Luniper might be like?

Hot and sandy like a desert?

Cold and icy like the arctic?

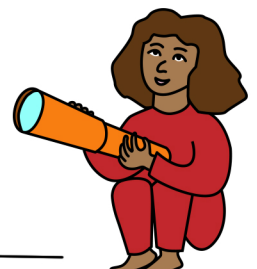
Leafy and green like a rainforest?

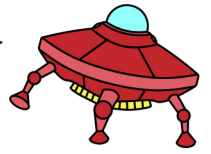
Can they invent their own planet and give it a name?

Can they use materials to represent their ideas with a picture or model?

Useful Links – Our Solar System

[CBeebies Stargazing – a wonderful child friendly resource with stargazing maps, facts and tips, songs and games](#)





Our Environment

Zoom! raises the issue of climate change in a way that is accessible to children. It is important to focus on what positive steps can be taken to meet the challenge.

Leelo can't believe that we would waste our Earth's precious resources. Leelo encourages Molly to think differently about reusing and recycling.

Reduce, Reuse and Recycle: A useful list of suggestions for positive changes the age range can make is found in the animated CBeebies Tee and Mo song '[Help our Little World](#)'. (There is also an accompanying [game](#).)

The [Eco Schools website](#) is a mine of green information and has current recycling information for children.

Sorting Materials Game

Using some waste objects (clean!) and ask the children to identify what the objects are made of. Can they sort the objects into the correct recycling bins?

Air Cleaners – Trees!

Leelo is fascinated by the trees in Molly's garden and considers them to be very precious. It is a great opportunity to develop awareness of the importance of trees to our environment, as well as to appreciate their beauty.

Use the [Woodland Trust website](#) to find resources and activities to cover all areas of the curriculum (linked in to key stages).

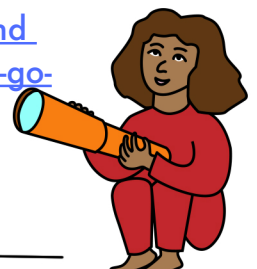
Eco Teams - Does your nursery or school have an Eco Team?
www.ecoschools.org.uk explains how to create an Eco Team (alongside local authorities) that is relevant to all school ages from Early Years onwards.

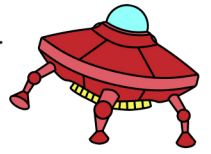
Useful Links - Our Environment

[Woodland Trust: why do we need trees https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/blog/2017/12/why-do-we-need-trees/](https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/blog/2017/12/why-do-we-need-trees/)

[Royal Parks: why trees are important https://www.royalparks.org.uk/parks/the-regents-park/things-to-see-and-do/gardens-and-landscapes/tree-map/why-trees-are-important](https://www.royalparks.org.uk/parks/the-regents-park/things-to-see-and-do/gardens-and-landscapes/tree-map/why-trees-are-important)

[BBC Bitesize EYFS / KS1 Geography: Go Jetters - Environment, weather and climate https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/eyfs-ks1-geography-go-jetters-environment-weather-and-climate/zfb3scw](https://www.bbc.co.uk/teach/class-clips-video/eyfs-ks1-geography-go-jetters-environment-weather-and-climate/zfb3scw)





Personal, Social and Emotional Development

Litter

A more accessible way for the age range to start talking about the impact of our behaviours on our environment is litter.

Can the children explain why dropping litter is a bad idea?

- For each other?
- For wildlife?
- For the planet?

Can they role play asking a friend not to drop litter and explain why?

Can they create an image for a poster to encourage people not to litter?

Litter, global citizenship and waste form three of the eco schools EYFS ten topics and more information can be found [here](#).

Molly's Telescope

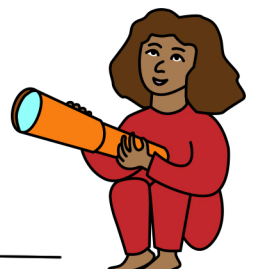
Molly loves her telescope but she is prepared to give it up to help Leelo.

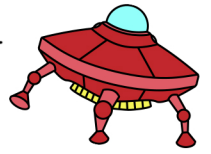
Do the class think she did the right thing?

Why do they think she did it?

Can they think of times when they have had to think about other people's feelings?

(e.g. compromising over a game, sharing a toy, taking turns, passing on outgrown things)





Expressive Arts and Design

Classroom Galaxy

Create a your own classroom galaxy either on a wall using a black sugar paper background or suspended from a starry classroom 'sky' with strings.

The display can include planets, stars, aliens and spacecraft in 2d and 3d.

Planet Art

Creating the planets provides an opportunity to explore lots of different mediums to create different surfaces.

Provide lots of circles of paper – different sizes and types/colours of paper – and children can experiment with:

Different mark makers in paint – e.g. potato prints, textured sponges

Wax crayons rubbed over different surfaces to create textures

Paint blowing to create 'bubble prints'

Thick paint and different scrapers – knives, forks, sticks, combs to create patterns/texture

Gluing objects onto card circles e.g. sticks, leaves, pasta etc. and painting over

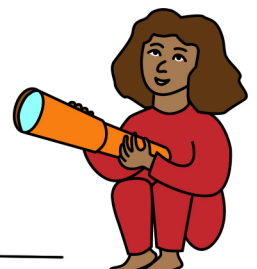
Make an Alien or Spaceship from Recycled Materials

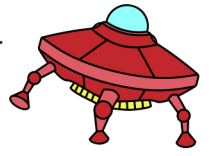
Junk model aliens and spacecraft help link your display to the themes of reusing and recycling.

Telescopes

Molly loves to look at the stars through her telescope. Recycle cardboard tubes to make and decorate simple telescopes – different sized tubes can be used to create extending scopes. (As well as toilet and kitchen roll inners, foil and clingfilm cardboard tubes can provide variety.)

See the 'Star in the Jar' Early Years Pack for how to make a simple projecting 'Star Scope'





Zoom Music

Find song sheets for 'Zoom, Zoom, Zoom, We're Going to the Moon!' and 'Roots, Trunks, Branches, Leaves' (an action song to be sung to the tune of 'Heads, Shoulders, Knees and Toes') overleaf.

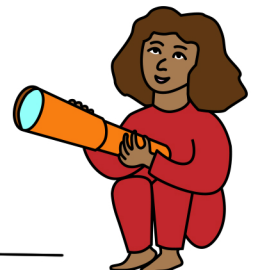
Environment Songs

There are many classic children's songs which talk about our environment such as:

- Here is the beehive
- Oats and Beans and Barley Grow
- I had a little Nut Tree

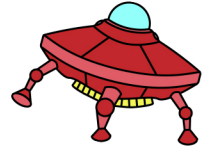
There is a simple to learn 'Earth Day Recycling Song' by the Kiboomers [here](#).

There's a fantastic and catchy song 'Trees' by Fran Avni & Jackie Cytrynbaum [here](#) which talks all about how important trees are to wildlife and us.





Song Sheet 1



Zoom, Zoom, Zoom, We're Going to the Moon!

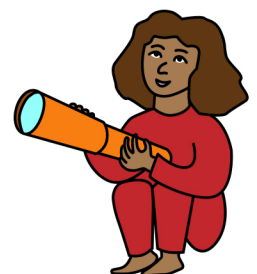
Zoom! includes the action song Zoom, Zoom, Zoom,
We're Going to the Moon!

Zoom, Zoom, Zoom
We're going to the moon.
Zoom, Zoom, Zoom
We'll be there very soon.

If you want to take a trip,
Climb aboard my rocket ship.

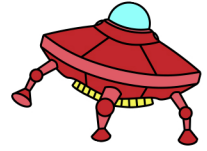
5, 4, 3, 2, 1 BLAST OFF!

See the 'Star in the Jar' Early Years Pack for more 'Space Songs'.





Song Sheet 2



Roots, Trunks, Branches, Leaves

Why not try learning about the parts of a tree
to the tune of 'Heads, Shoulders, Knees and Toes'.

Roots, trunks, branches, leaves

Branches, leaves

Roots, trunks, branches, leaves

Branches, leaves

All waving in the summer breeze

Roots, trunks, branches, leaves

Branches, leaves

Actions:

Standing up, wiggle toes for roots, pat legs for trunks, and hold out arms for branches. Wiggle fingers for leaves, then let your arms sway in the 'summer breeze'.

