

Space Junk

Story by Heather Hammonds

Illustrations by Millie Liu



PM

Space Junk

Level 22

Running Words 784 **Text Type** Narrative

Curriculum Areas English (Literacy, Literature, Language); Technologies (Design and Technologies); Science (Earth and Space Sciences); Humanities (Civics and Citizenship)

Retelling to Encourage Critical Thinking About the Content

Ask each student to retell the story in their own words.

Record the retelling for further discussion and reflection.

Questions to Reinforce Meaning and Stimulate Discussion

Literal

- 1 Why is it harder to see the stars in the city than on the farm?
- 2 What is a meteorite?
- 3 What did Aiden and Krista tell the news reporter?

Inferential

- 4 What would have caused the loud bang that Aiden heard?
- 5 Why did Aiden ask Aunt Kelly to take a photo of the space junk?
- 6 Why did Aunt Kelly call the police?
- 7 Why do scientists want to clean up space junk?
- 8 Why was Aiden pleased that the space junk landed on the farm?

Applied Knowledge

- 9 Why is it important not to touch objects that the police are investigating?
- 10 Apart from satellites, what are some types of machines that are sent into space?

Links with Other PM Guided Reading Books

Level 22	Narrative	<i>Ruben's Race Car</i>
Level 22	Narrative	<i>The Missing Bone</i>
Level 22	Narrative	<i>The Asteroid</i>
Level 21	Narrative	<i>The Mystery of Spring Gully</i>
Level 21	Procedure	<i>Making and Using a Rain Gauge</i>



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Chapter 1

A Light in the Sky

Aiden was spending a week with his cousin Krista and his Aunt Kelly and Uncle Ralph. They lived on a farm in the country.

Aiden loved visiting the farm.



In the evenings, Aiden liked to go outside and look up at the starry sky.

He wanted to be an astronomer when he was older.

“I can see lots of stars, here,” he told Krista.

“At home in the city, all the lights make the stars hard to see.”





One evening, after dinner,
Aiden and Krista were out in the garden.
They were looking at the full moon,
which was beginning to rise.



“It’s so cold!” said Krista. “I’m going inside to get my coat.”

Aiden stayed outside.

He watched the big, yellow moon rise high over the farm.

Suddenly, Aiden saw a bright object race across the sky. Then he heard a loud **BANG!**



“Krista, Uncle Ralph, Aunt Kelly!” he yelled.

“I think something from space might have crashed on the farm!”

Everyone ran outside.

“It sounded like it landed in a field over there,”
Aiden told them, pointing.

“I can hear the cows,” said Uncle Ralph.

“Something has disturbed them.
Let’s go and take a look.”

