

Snow Cones in SPACE



by Michael Sandler • illustrated by Srimalie Bassani

SCIENCE FICTION

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Level **1/15**

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Science Fiction

Look for the genre features noted below as you read this book. Use the features to help you understand the text.

The story may take place in the future.

Characters may travel through space and time.

Science Fiction

The story may tell about the effect of science on people.

Characters may include aliens.

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Cora and I were visiting our mom in outer space.

“Mom will be so surprised!” said Cora staring out the window. Stars and planets whizzed by.

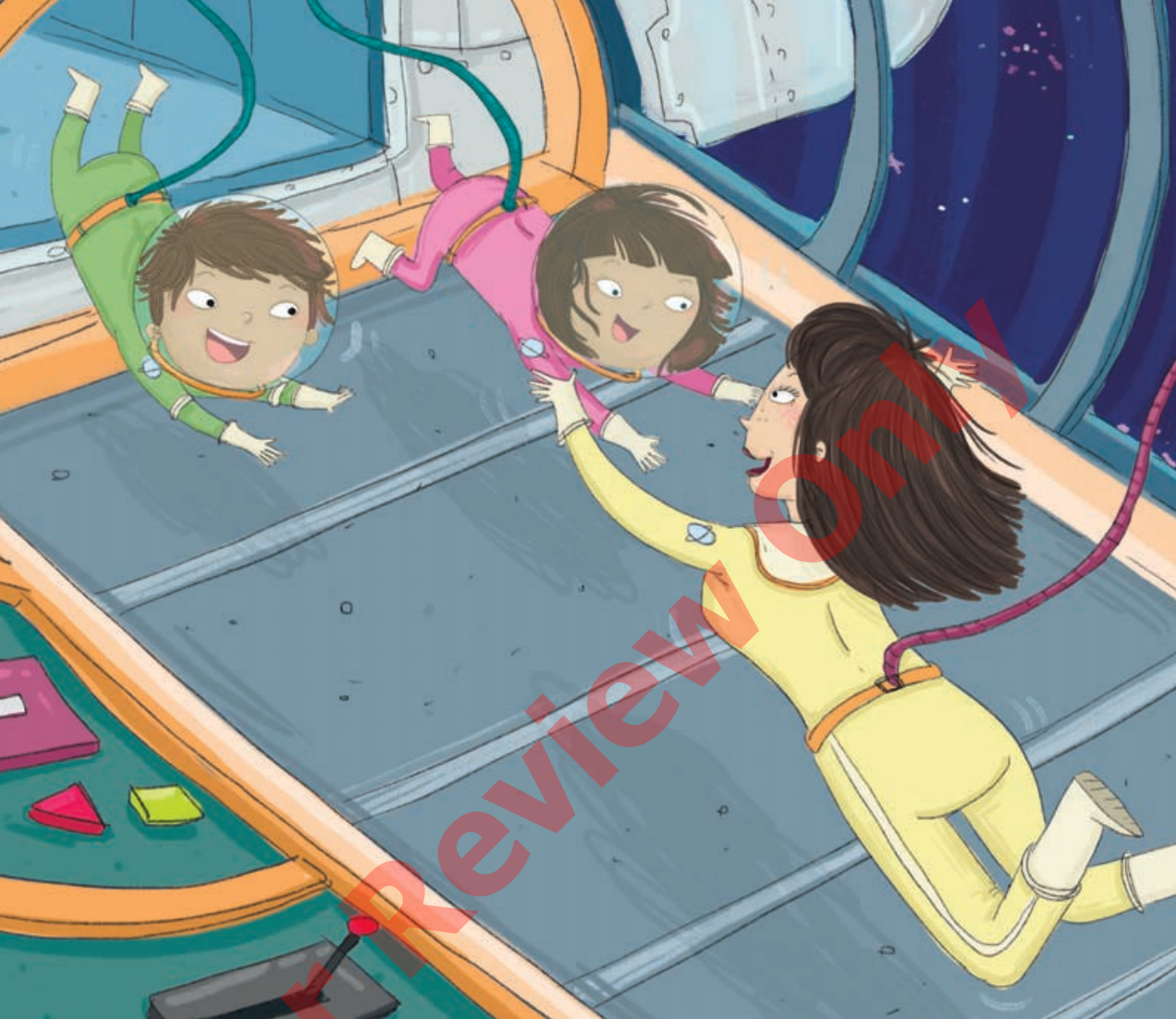




“Yup,” I answered. “Astronauts don’t expect kids to show up at work!”

“Mom deserves it,” said Cora. “She’s always by herself on her birthday. She never gets to spend it with us.”

Our spaceship stopped. We docked with the space station. The door opened wide. Mom stood on the other side working. She was so surprised to see us.



“Cora, Kavi, wow!”

“Happy birthday!” we shouted as she hugged us.

“You’re in time for the party. My friends are making my favorite treat!”

“Snow cones?” I asked. “Where do we get ice? The space station doesn’t have a freezer.”

“You’ll see.” Mom said.



We followed her into a room filled with streamers. There was a big sign that said “Happy Birthday Koko.” That’s my mom’s name.

The other astronauts were blowing up balloons that floated all around us.



“There’s no gravity here in space. Everything flies about,” said an astronaut. “Want to help? We have little ones shaped liked animals and big round ones.”

“Animals,” said Cora.

“Round, please,” I said.



We blew and blew.





“It’s funny,” said Cora, holding up her snake balloon. “Air can take almost any shape.”

“You picked the right shape,” I gasped. “Mine holds a lot more air.”

An astronaut named Harvey interrupted us. “Snow cone time!”