When You’re Going to the Moon
By Sasha Beekman & Illustrated by Vivienne To
Publisher: Affirm Press
ISBN 9781925584936 SCIS:1879126
$24.99

Your pet iguana, tap-dancing shoes, an inflatable moose... What else might you need when you’re going to the moon?

From an exciting new duo comes a heartfelt story about dreaming your biggest dream and taking it to the stars.

Teacher Notes have been based on those supplied by the publisher. A full version is available on our website.

**Themes:**
- Following your dreams
- Conquering your fears
- The joy of adventure
- The comfort of home

**Discussion Questions & Activities:**
- If you could go anywhere – from Egypt or Paris to Jupiter or Mars – where would you go? Make a list of the things you need to take on your journey.
- Print out a big map of the world and mark your town with an ‘X’. See how far it is from all the other places (on Earth) you might like to go! Using the key and a piece of string, can you work out how many kilometres you would have to travel? Who wants to travel the furthest?
- When the main character is leaving on her adventure, she keeps turning back. Why? Do you think she really needs all of the things she takes to the moon? Are you ever nervous before going somewhere different? What do you do to make yourself feel better? Do you have any special items you would take with you?
- Take a good look at the main character’s bedroom. What do you see there, and what do these things tell you about her? Draw a picture of your bedroom. What do all the things in your room say about you?
- Does anyone in the class have a pet iguana? What kind of pet would you like, if you could have anything you choose? Draw a picture of your dream pet, and don’t forget to give them a name!
- What are your dreams? What things would you like to do before you get too big? Make a list as a class, and see if you can cross off any of these things together.
- Draw your kitchen or dining room. What does it look like when you’re about to have dinner? What does a typical meal look like? Do you ever eat with chopsticks, like the character in this book?
- Using boxes, break into groups to build rockets, just like the one you see in the main character’s room. Don’t forget to paint it!
- Did you know that people actually have walked on the moon? As a class, look at some photos of the moon landing and research what happened. Who travelled to the moon? Why did they go? When did they land? How did they get there? Can you find out what they needed to take to the moon?