

SPACE SONGS

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TOM GLAZER and DOTTIE EVANS

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Tom Glazer & Dottie Evans Space Songs

from Ballads For The Age Of Science by Hy Zaret and Lou Singer



Leo Lionni

ZOOM A LITTLE ZOOM (Rocket Ship)

Zoom a little zoom in a rocket ship
Off we go, on trip
Headin' for the moon at a rocket clip
We're gonna zoom-zoom... rocket!

Zoom a little zoom, now we're almost free
From the Earth's gravity
Zoomin' to the moon at terrific speed
Because there is no friction

Soon... we'll see if the moon is made out of green cheese... ha ha ha ha
Zoom... we're here at the moon, let's see what the moon is like

Look at those high mountains and wide craters and jagged peaks... and look at that great big moon up there.

That isn't the moon... that's our Earth.

Oh we've landed! I feel so light.

Watch me jump... Thirty feet, a world's record.

Oh, that's easy on the moon... Keep you're suit on, remember there's no air around here.

Zoom a little zoom in a rocket ship
Home we go, on trip
Coming back to Earth at a rocket clip,
We're gonna zoom-zoom... rocket!

WHY GO UP THERE

Why do we all want to be up there, up there?

What is there to do or see up there, up there?

Outer space is the place where we'll trace the future

There's a lot of who knows what away up there

Q: Now that I think of it, why do we want to be up there?

A: Because we're people, members of the human race... We thirst for knowledge... We want to know... And we do know that new frontiers and new discoveries are waiting for new pioneers and scientists... away up there.

Outer space is the place where we'll trace the future

There's a lot of who knows what away up there

There's the force that draws you toward its core
No matter where you're at
And before you fly from the face of the Earth
There's a force to counteract —

REPEAT REFRAIN

PLANET MINUET

High above us, way up yonder, planets wander
Through the starry skies
While we gaze at them and ponder
They just wander on
Stars appear to blink and twinkle
But the planets have a steady glow
Are the stars and planets different
And what makes them so
High above us, way up yonder, planets wander
Through the starry skies
While we gaze at them and ponder
They just wander on

Which is the biggest planet?

Which is the brightest?

Which one has a ring?

Which one is most likely to support life?

Which one is nearest to the sun?

Which is the one we love the best?

Jupiter

Venus

Saturn

Mars

Mercury

Good old Mother Earth

WHAT IS THE MILKY WAY

What is the Milky Way?

—Stars along the rim of our Galaxy

Billions of stars, they say

Make the Milky Way a delight to see

There are many billions of galaxies

Each of them with billions of stars

Could it be that somewhere among all these

There's another planet like ours?

Our galaxy is a flat spiral composed of billions of stars. The nearest galaxy to ours is a million light years away. The farthest we can see are about a billion light years away, and somewhere among the billions of galaxies there could be planets like ours, with life on them.

CONSTELLATION JIG

In olden times people imagined bears and lions, gods and people in the sky. They thought they saw winged horses and wriggling snakes, sailboats and beautiful maidens. They invented interesting stories to explain how those constellations got there. That's how the constellations got their names. Today, astronomers use them to locate the stars.

Wouldn't it be heavenly to know the constellations

Scan the skies and recognize their names and their locations

Though they're only figments of our own imaginations

Wouldn't it be heavenly to know the constellations

Hercules, Delphinus and Andromeda and Lyra

Pegasus and Sagitta, Dorado and Lacerta

Ursa Major, Ursa Minor, Cetus and Orion

I could name a dozen more if I were really tryin'
In the zodiac you'll find a dozen constellations
You can trace them in the sky with just a little patience
Leo, Virgo, Scorpius and Gemini and Taurus —
These are five, now who can name the other seven for us
Aquarius! Sagittarius! Aries! Libra! Capricorn! Cancer! Pisces!
What determines what we see among the constellations?
Atmosphere, the time of year as well as their locations
Latitude and time of night are prime considerations
Each of them are factors when we see the constellations

BEEP, BEEP! (Here Comes The Satellite)

Beep, beep! Beep, beep! here comes the Satellite
Beep, beep! Beep, beep! and now it's out of sight
Beep, beep! Beep, beep! around the Earth it goes
Beep, beep! Beep, beep! and that's how Science grows
Beep, beep! Beep, beep! it photographs the skies
Beep, beep! Beep, beep! and makes us weather wise
Beep, beep! Beep, beep! it opens new frontiers
Beep, beep! Beep, beep! for future pioneers

Look at it whizz. It must go at least five miles a second or it will never stay up. Some can go around the Earth in only an hour and a half.

Beep, beep! Beep, beep! around the Earth it goes
Beep, beep! Beep, beep! And that's how Science grows

WHAT IS GRAVITY

*How much do you weigh?
About 105 pounds.
That's because the Earth's gravity pulls you downward with just that amount of force.
How much would I weigh on the moon?
The moon is much smaller than the Earth, so you'd weigh about 18 pounds.
I think I'll stay where I am.
Well, gravity will help you do just that.
Gravity... Gravity
All matter has a force
That pulls things toward its core.
Gravity... Gravity
Is what we call that force*

*If the Earth is a ball, why don't we fall off
While it spins around
If the Earth is a ball, why don't we all
Go flying off the ground?
Well, the Earth has force that pulls and draws
All matter toward its core
And the pull of the force called "gravity"
Is why we don't fall off*

REPEAT REFRAIN

*Well the Earth is so large that each little part
Appears to be quite flat
But the Earth is a ball, and we never fall off
Due to a simple fact:*

Can you guess? Yes you're right
Measured by its Fahrenheit.

Red stars are cooler than the yellow
Yellow cooler than the white
The color of each star above
Depends upon its Fahrenheit

There are many kinds of stars. Some are red giants; some are blue giants; some are white dwarfs; Some are medium-sized and yellowish-white, like our sun. Some stars are dark, and give no light... and, astronomers think that stars change... they start young and grow old and they finally die out...

WHY DO STARS TWINKLE

Why do the stars twinkle at night?
Why do they have a twinkly light?

The light of the stars is steady and clear
But we see the stars through the Atmosphere
The Atmosphere has layers of air
The layers keep moving from here to there
Because of the different temperatures
The layers keep moving from here to there

The air moves in, the air moves out
And tosses the light of the stars about
The moving air "bends" the light
And that's why the stars twinkle at night

The stars twinkle because they are tiny bright points of light. The planets do not twinkle because they are much closer to the Earth and have a noticeable size.

WHY DOES THE SUN SHINE

The Sun is a mass of incandescent gas
A gigantic nuclear furnace
Where hydrogen is built into helium
At a temperature of millions of degrees
Yo ho, it's hot... the sun is not
A place where we could live
But here on Earth there'd be no life
Without the light it gives
We need its light, we need its heat
We need its energy
Without the sun, without a doubt
There'd be no you and me

The Sun is a mass of incandescent gas
A gigantic nuclear furnace
Where hydrogen is built into helium
At a temperature of millions of degrees

The Sun is hot

(It is so hot that everything on it is a gas: ... Iron, copper, aluminum and many others are all gases.)

The Sun is large

(If the Sun were hollow, a million Earths could fit inside, and yet, the Sun is only a middle-sized star.)

The Sun is far away

(About 93,000,000 miles away, and that's why it looks so small.)

And even when it's out of sight
The sun shines night and day
The Sun gives heat the Sun gives light —
The sunlight that we see
The sunlight comes from our own Sun's
Atomic energy

Scientists have found that the sun is a huge atom-smashing machine. The heat and light of the sun come from the nuclear reactions of four common chemicals: hydrogen, carbon, nitrogen and helium.

The sun is a mass of incandescent gas
A gigantic nuclear furnace
Where hydrogen is built into helium
At a temperature of millions of degrees

WHAT IS A SHOOTING STAR

A shooting star is not a star
Is not a star at all
A shooting star's a meteor
That's heading for a fall
A shooting star is not a star
Why does it shine so bright
...The friction as it falls through air
Produces heat and light
A shooting star or meteor —
Whichever name you like —
The minute it comes down to Earth
It's called a meteorite

Oh, come now, you don't mean all parts of my shoes.

No, only the parts that touch the ground. And by the way, did you know that cars couldn't move without friction — the tires couldn't grip the ground.

REPEAT REFRAIN

Friction is greater on rougher surfaces
On smoother surfaces, friction is less
Oil is quite useful for many purposes
Speaking of friction, what is your guess

Oil smoothes the surfaces, and reduces the friction.

REPEAT REFRAIN

Our little planet whirls into outer space
Out there in outer space, friction is nil
That's why our planet maintains a whirling pace
Whirling and twirling, it won't stand still

REPEAT REFRAIN

WHY ARE STARS OF DIFFERENT COLORS

Some stars are yellow, some are blue
Some are red and some are white
The color of each star, it's true
Depends upon its Fahrenheit

The color of a star, you can be sure,
Is mostly due to its temperature
The temperature is measured by —

“By passing a beam of sunlight through an opening in a darkened room into a prism, ladies and gentlemen, I believe we can see that white light is a combination of the seven colors of the rainbow.”

There is no disputin’, there is no refutin’,
We’re all indebted to Sir Isaac Newton
Because... because... because

He constructed a reflecting telescope

Because... because... because

He made great discoveries in the field of mathematics.

Because... because... because

He discovered many of the laws on which physics and mechanics have been developed.

Because... because... because

Sir Isaac discovered — his genius uncovered

The nature of natural laws

Naturally, he was a genius.

FRICITION

Friction, what is Friction?

Friction is the rub-a-dub-dub, rub-a-dub of objects that are moving

And the rub-a-dub of contact is friction at work

Your shoes are made of friction material

It’s immaterial what kind you wear

Walking or running, friction material

Helps you in getting from here to there

LONGITUDE AND LATITUDE

Do you know what Longitude — Latitude — Longitude

Do you know what Longitude — Latitude mean

Longitude, Latitude, Longitude, latitude

Yes, I know what longitude, latitude mean

“Latitude” is the angular distance

Measured in degrees

It tells how far from the Equator

Any place happens to be

North or South, from the Equator —

Wherever a place may be —

Latitude gives the angular distance

Scientifically.

Do you know what Longitude — Latitude — Longitude

Do you know what Longitude — Latitude mean

Longitude, Latitude, Longitude, latitude

Yes, I know what longitude, latitude mean

“Longitude” is the angular distance

Measured in degrees

It tells how far from Greenwich, England

Any place happens to be

East or West, from Greenwich, England

Wherever a place may be

Longitude gives the angular distance

Scientifically

Do you know what Longitude — Latitude — Longitude

Do you know what Longitude — Latitude mean

Longitude, Latitude, Longitude, latitude
Yes, I know what longitude, latitude mean

What is longitude and latitude of my town? Why don't you look it up on a map?

IT'S A SCIENTIFIC FACT

It's a scientific fact, a scientific fact
It has to be correct, it has to be exact
Because it is, because it is a scientific fact

It's a scientific fact that our high and low tides are caused by the gravitational pull of the moon.

It's been proven to be true
Like one and one are two
It's checked and double-checked
A fact that can be backed
Because it is, because it is a scientific fact

It's a scientific fact that there are belts of radiation in outer space, which are a hazard for future space flyers to overcome.

It's a scientific fact, a scientific fact
It has to be correct, it has to be exact
Because it is, because it is a scientific fact

Well, of course, even scientific facts are not perfectly exact, but they are as exact as it is humanly possible to make them at the time.

It's a scientific fact, a scientific fact
It has to be correct, it has to be exact
Because it is, because it is a scientific fact

BALLAD OF SIR ISAAC NEWTON

There is no disputin', there is no refutin',
We're all indebted to Sir Isaac Newton
Because... because... because
Sir Isaac discovered — his genius uncovered
The nature of natural laws

“For example, it's simple”, said he
“The First Law of Motion should be:

An object at rest tends to remain at rest, and an object in motion tends to remain in motion, with the same speed and in the same direction.”

There is no disputin', there is no refutin',
We're all indebted to Sir Isaac Newton
Because... because... because
Sir Isaac discovered — his genius uncovered
The nature of natural laws

“If an apple falls down on your head,
That is gravity”, Sir Isaac said

“It strikes me that all objects in the universe exert gravitational attraction upon each other.”

There is no disputin', there is no refutin',
We're all indebted to Sir Isaac Newton
Because... because... because
Sir Isaac discovered — his genius uncovered
The nature of natural laws

He illumined the subject of light
And showed an amazing insight!