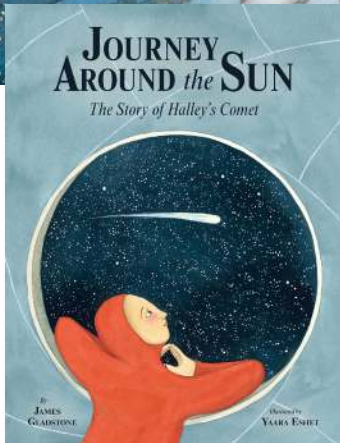


Journey Around the Sun

Discussion Guide by James Gladstone



Book written by James Gladstone and illustrated by Yaara Eshet

About the Book

Halley's Comet, visible from Earth only once every 75 years, tells its own story in this unique informational picture book. With each return of the comet, the book highlights human life at that time, and how science has advanced toward a greater understanding of our universe.

Told in minimal, poetic text paired with detailed captions for context, the book begins with sightings in ancient civilizations where, for centuries, the comet was a mystery recorded in art and writing. From Edmond Halley's successful prediction of the comet's return in 1758, through the advent of technologies like cameras and eventually a spacecraft that photographed its ice core, Halley's Comet tells an inspiring and wide-reaching story of scientific advancement and cultural history. The book closes by inviting readers to wonder what our world might look like the next time Halley's Comet is visible from Earth, expected in 2061. What will the comet "see," next time it passes by on its journey?

Discussion Questions

- Which character tells the story of Halley's Comet? Why do you think the author wrote the book this way?
- How did people in the past describe Halley's Comet? Why do you think people had so many different ideas about Halley's Comet?
- Imagine you lived a thousand years ago or more. What might you feel if you saw a comet in the sky at that time? Describe your ideas in pictures or words.
- Imagine you live a thousand years in the future. What might you feel if you saw a comet in the sky at that time? Describe your ideas in pictures or words.
- The author wrote captions to tell more about ideas in the story. Which caption did you find most interesting? Why?
- How do the illustrations help tell the story of Halley's Comet?
- What is your favorite illustration? Describe what that picture shows. How does it make you feel?
- How did the whole story make you feel?
- What is one thing about Halley's Comet that you would like to know more about? How can you find out?

ISBN

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CURRICULUM LINKS

Language Arts: Reading Comprehension

Science: Earth and Space Systems

Social Studies: Local and Global Communities

READING LEVELS

Grade: 3 - 7

Fountas & Pinnell: U

Lexile® Measure: AD960L

Common Core: L.5, RF.5, RI.5, RL.5, SL.5, W.5

Next Generation Science Standards

(NGSS): 5-PS2, 5-PS3, 5-ESS1, 5-ESS2, 5-ESS3