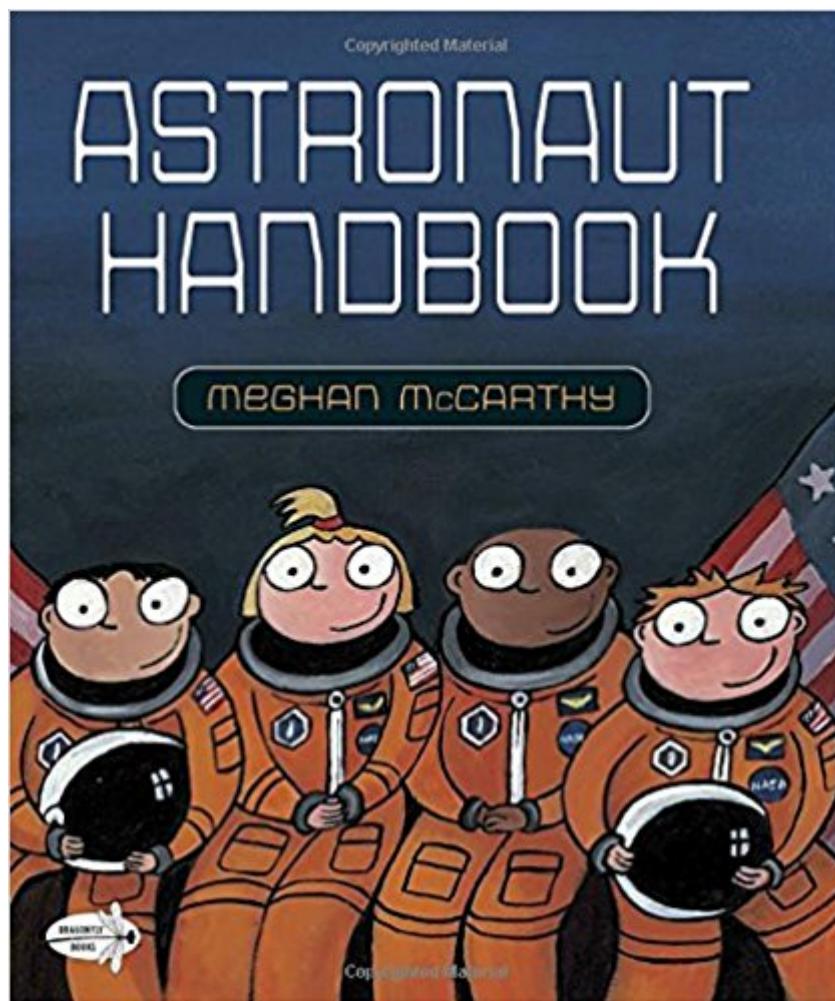


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# Astronaut Handbook



## Synopsis

Do you have what it takes to be an astronaut? Blast off in this fun nonfiction picture book by the author of *Pop! The Invention of Bubble Gum* to find out! With an appealing text and funny, brightly colored illustrations, Meghan McCarthy transports aspiring space travelers to astronaut school in her young nonfiction picture book. Take a ride on the "Vomit Comet" and learn how it feels to be weightless. Try a bite of astronaut food, such as delicious freeze-dried ice cream. Have your measurements taken of your hand alone for your very own space suit. Get ready for liftoff! McCarthy introduces the paraphernalia of rocket travel with a corollary, direct humor that understands and respects its audience.

Booklist

"This appealing book is sure to find a wide audience."

School Library Journal

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 0760 (What's this?)

Paperback: 40 pages

Publisher: Dragonfly Books; Reprint edition (January 3, 2017)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0399555463

ISBN-13: 978-0399555466

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 0.2 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 36 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #103,603 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #51 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Astronomy & Space > Aeronautics & Space #124 in Books > Children's Books > Humor > General #1733 in Books > Children's Books > Science, Nature & How It Works

Age Range: 3 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 2

## Customer Reviews

Kindergarten-Grade 3 McCarthy speaks directly to children who dream of someday "BLASTING into outer space," inviting them to experience astronaut school with four aspiring recruits. Painted in a cartoon style, the three men and one woman have large saucerlike eyes and off-center smiles. The book gives a very real picture of the arduous training required before going

into space. Full-color spreads done in acrylics on gessoed paper show authentic facilities like a swimming pool, a jet, and the Vomit Comet (a plane ride that allows passengers to experience weightlessness). The text and illustrations are simply done, and their very sparseness highlights important stages in astronaut preparation. A space suit and toilet are shown against white backgrounds, and their parts are clearly labeled. The space-shuttle liftoff, painted vertically, and images of the smiling characters in space capture the excitement of this ultimate adventure. The author includes a page of fascinating facts as well as a list of places to visit. This appealing book is sure to find a wide audience.  Mary Jean Smith, Southside Elementary School, Lebanon, TN

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--This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Meghan McCarthy is the author-illustrator of many nonfiction picture books, including Earmuffs for Everyone!; The Adventures of Patty and the Big Red Bus; Strong Man; The Incredible Life of Balto; and Aliens Are Coming!. Learn more about Meghan and her books at [Meghan-McCarthy.com](http://Meghan-McCarthy.com).

Beyond adorable book! And it allows you to personalize it by placing your own photo on the back. What I really like about this book is that it talks about all the different kinds of astronauts. From the engineers to the actual once who go into space. It really opens the doors to children, showing them the different fields, everything it takes, dedication and hard work, education and such to make it to space. After I got the first one I bought a couple of more to save for birthday gifts down the road. In the story it talks about space ice cream so I also bought some freeze dried space ice cream to go with the gift. It was perfect!

kids love it. It has, among other things, a great diagram and instructions for the "space potty."

I bought this to go along with a space play set for my 4 year old son. I love that it has bright and colorful pictures and the information, though basic, is accurate. I like that it didn't just talk about flying a space shuttle but has other jobs for astronauts. I've already had to read this to my son 10 times since Christmas. It's a hit!

My pre-school age son went through an astronaut/space phase and the purchase of this book was a result. We both really liked it (and Grandma too!) and would recommend it to others. It's a nice mixture of story and fact (it doesn't read like an encyclopedia). My son likes the count down and

blast off pages, and also where the author explains the different jobs people do in space.

I bought this book for my 4-year-old son when he was going through a space phase. We read it every night for a spell. I like that the author approaches the topic of becoming an astronaut as if she were giving real advice to children in a space program. She encourages kids to study hard, keep fit, learn to be a team player and toughen up. Then, she introduces some of the skills and equipment needed to be an astronaut. My son particularly liked the pages describing the various components of the astronaut food tray, the space toilet and the space suit. The last pages of the book include "fascinating facts" and a list of other resources. As a side note, the whimsical illustrations feature racially and gender diverse astronauts, which I think is important for children's books. I'd recommend this book to any parent with children interested in space or becoming an astronaut.

Very cute book.

Love it

My eight-year-old boy and nine-year-old girl enjoyed this book as a short, fun break from schoolwork; it's entertaining enough for a third grader to read alone without being babyish.

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Chasing Space: An Astronaut's Story of Grit, Grace, and Second Chances  
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An Astronaut's Guide to Life on Earth: What Going to Space Taught Me About Ingenuity, Determination, and Being Prepared for Anything  
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