

BY ROSELYNN AKULUKJUK

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LITTLE MOAR AND THE MOON



EDUCATOR'S
RESOURCE



Little Moar and the Moon

About the Book

Moar has always loved autumn—playing outside with his friends, feeling the weather get colder—but there is one thing about autumn that really worries Moar. The moon. The days become shorter and the moon, with its creepy face and eerie smile, seems to be looking down on him before he can even get home from school! So, one day, Moar is determined to get home before the moon appears in the sky. But there are so many fun things to do on the way home, he may just run out of time!

About the Author

Roselynn Akulukjuk was born in Pangnirtung, Nunavut, in the Canadian Arctic. In 2012, Roselynn moved to Toronto to pursue a career in film and attend the Toronto Film School, where she fell in love with being behind the camera. After finishing her studies and working in Toronto, Roselynn returned home to Nunavut, where she began working with Taqqut Productions, an Inuit-owned production company located in the capital of Nunavut, Iqaluit. Part of Roselynn's love of filmmaking is the ability to interview Elders, listen to their traditional stories, and share them with the world. In 2015, Roselynn wrote and directed her first film, the live-action and puppetry short *The Owl and the Lemming*, on which her book by the same title is based. Her film won Best Animation at the 2016 American Indian Film Festival.

About the Illustrator

Jazmine Gubbe is an illustrator from Ontario currently working in the animation industry. When she is not painting she is hiking, exploring nature, and learning the mysterious local history.



Pre-Reading Discussion Questions

- Have you ever heard of someone talk about “the man on the moon?” What do you think people mean by that? Have you seen a face in the moon before? Do you think it is really a person?
- By looking at the cover illustration, how do you think Moar feels about the moon?
- Do you prefer the daylight or do you like when it is dark outside? Why?
- What things can you do in the daylight that you can’t easily do in the dark? What things can you do in the dark that you can’t easily do in the daylight?
- What do you think this story will be about?

During and Post-Reading Discussion Questions

The following questions and discussion points can be used during and after reading *Little Moar and the Moon*. Provide students with the chance to voice their own opinions, share their experiences, ask questions, or point out anything else they may notice about the book.

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- What’s your favourite sport to play with friends?

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- Usually a smile would seem like a happy thing! Why do you think Moar might be scared of the smiling moon? Have you ever seen a face in the moon before?

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- Do you think Moar will get home before the moon comes out?

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- What would you choose to do at this point? Would you stay and play with your friends even though it’s getting a bit darker, or say that you needed to leave and go straight home before the moon came out?

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- Can you tell of a time that you’ve lost track of time? What were you doing?



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- Little Moar likes to help others, so he may have had a hard time saying no to his cousin when he was asked to help feed the dogs, even though he knew it was getting darker. What things do you like to do to help others? How does it make you feel when you help someone?

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- What do you think Moar's cousin might be thinking when Moar runs away suddenly?

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- Little Moar saw a face on the moon, but really there were just lots of bumps on the moon. Have you ever looked at something and thought it was something else until you looked closer?

Extension Activities

Man on the Moon

Pretend that there is actually a person living on the moon. Use your imagination and create a character. Consider the following questions:

- What is their name?
- What do they like to do?
- How did they get on the moon? Have they always lived there?
- What are their likes and dislikes?
- Do they have family or friends on other moons or planets?
- What do they do when the moon is not showing and when the sun is up?
- Do they ever come visit Earth?



Conquering Fears

Everybody feels scared, unsure, or nervous sometimes. As a class or on your own, create a brainstorm of things that make you feel better when you are feeling scared (e.g., talk to a friend, hug someone you love, take ten deep breaths). Think of as many ideas as you can. Pick your top three choices. Write these choices on a small piece of paper or bookmark, so you can carry it with you when you are feeling scared and it can act as a reminder of what to do.

Seasons Pros and Cons

Little Moar says that he does like fall, but he doesn't like that the darkness comes so early in the day. Individually or as a group, make a chart that includes the four seasons. Discuss the meaning of pros and cons. For each of the four seasons, write at least one pro and one con. What do you love most about each season? What is something you dislike about each season?

For example:

- Winter
 - Pro: I love that I can go skating and sledding.
 - Con: I don't like spending so much time getting outdoor clothing on.

Planets and Moons

Towards the end of the story, Little Moar's mother tells him that the moon is very far from Earth and it can't hurt him. Did you know that there is more than one moon?

- Make a list of all of the planets.
- Using books in your classroom, library, or the Internet, look up how many moons each planet has.
- Use your imagination and draw a diagram of what you think the solar system might look like, including the moons for each planet.

