

Meet the Planets

Written by John McGranaghan
Illustrated by Laurie Allen Klein

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Soar through space and Meet The Planets!

Soar into the Solar System to witness the first *Favorite Planet Competition*, emceed by none other than the former-ninth planet, now known as dwarf planet Pluto. The readers become the judges after the sun can't pick a favorite and the meteors leave for a shower. Who will the lucky winning planet be? Could it be speedy-messenger Mercury, light-on-his-feet Saturn, or smoking-hot Venus? Readers learn all about each planet as Pluto announces them with short, tongue-in-cheek facts. Children will spend hours searching the art for all the references to famous scientists and people of history, space technology, constellations, art, and classic literature.



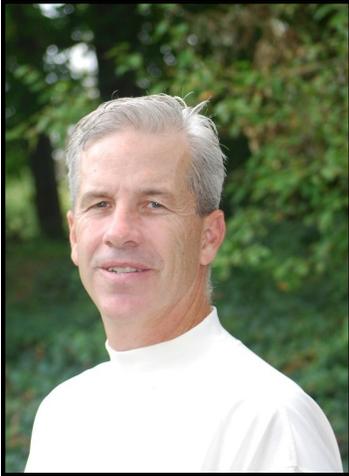
For Creative Minds

Teachers and Parents will love the educational section, which includes the following educational activities:

- **And the Winner Is...**
- **Time and Temperatures**
- **Distance from Sun: A Place Value Activity**
- **Constellations, Famous People, and Space Technology**
- **Solar System Matching Activities**

Plus, 40-60 pages of cross-curricular **Teaching Activities** and three Interactive Reading Comprehension and Math **Quizzes** on Meet the Planets' homepage (<http://www.ArbordalePublishing.com/MeetPlanets.php>) to help parents and educators extend the learning possibilities. Thanks to scientists and educators at NASA/JPL (Jet Propulsion Laboratory) and to Brian Kruse, Lead Formal Educator at the Astronomical Society of the Pacific, for verifying the accuracy of the information in this book.

About the Author & Illustrator



John McGranaghan has always been fascinated by outer space and he shares that fascination in a humorous (but educational) way through *Meet the Planets* and *Saturn for My Birthday*. John has also written stories and articles for *Boys' Quest Magazine*, *Pockets Magazine*, *Columbia Magazine*, and local newspapers. He is winner of the 2001 Pockets Fiction Contest. When John isn't writing, he enjoys sports and spending time with his wife and two boys. John is a school counselor in the Philadelphia suburbs.

Laurie Allen Klein has been a freelance artist for nearly 20 years. Over the last several years, she has worked as the on-staff artist for a marine park, where she does everything from painting life-size sea animal murals, to illustrating children's activity books. As evident by the extras included in the art, she has combined her love and fascination with outer space (and science fiction) with children's illustration in *Meet the Planets*. Laurie also illustrated *Furs and Feathers, Where Should Turtle Be?*, and the award-winning *Little Skink's Tail*, and *If a Dolphin Were a Fish* for Arbordale. Laurie lives in Florida. See more of her artwork at <http://www.lauriekleinarts.com/>.



Contact Information

For additional information on *Meet the Planets* and other Arbordale books, please contact Heather Williams at 877-958-2600 (toll free) or email PR@ArbordalePublishing.com.



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