



The Floor Is Outer Space!

Impossible Days

By J. Ladis and Haley Dell

Little Story Magic



A tiny light blinked beneath the living-room chair. John lay on the rug to look. Their toy astronaut was stranded inside the ring of a wooden stacking toy. “Rescue crew, can you hear me?”



“Loud and clear!” Julia pulled two cardboard helmets from the dressing-up box. The rug stretched into space. The chair became Saturn, and scattered cushions became stepping-stone planets. “Hold on. We’re coming.”



John's map showed a straight route. Unfortunately, a belt of tumbling sock asteroids crossed the middle. "We could zoom straight through." "And bump into every sock?"



They watched the asteroids roll apart, then guided their little rescue ship through one wide gap. A stripy sock brushed John's helmet. "Space dust." "Laundry."



Their ship touched down on a small red planet. When John lifted one boot, the planet came with it. “It’s following me!” Julia spotted the scratchy patch on his slipper. She peeled him free, and they left the sticky planet behind.



Saturn was close now, but its ring spun between them and the astronaut. Their short ladder could not reach across. “I can see you!” The little light blinked again.



Julia looked back at the trail of socks. “We brought a whole asteroid belt.” They fished three sock asteroids aboard and knotted them into a soft rescue line. John held one end while Julia slid the other across the ring.



The astronaut caught the line. Slowly, slowly, they drew the little explorer across. Halfway over, one enormous boot caught beneath the ring. “Stop pulling!” “Turn sideways.”



The astronaut turned. The boot slipped free. Soon all three were safely aboard the rescue ship. “I thought I would miss supper.” “Rescue first. Supper next.”



Their straight route home was blocked again. John marked the sticky planet on his map. Julia waited for the socks to drift apart, then steered through the gap. The rug returned. The chair returned. The astronaut sat beside a tiny plate.



“Mission complete!” Julia removed her helmet. One stripy sock was still stuck to it. “We brought back a moon.”

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