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Boy, Were We Wrong About the Universe

Larysa Bordner

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Kudlinski, Kathleen V. *Boy, Were We Wrong About the Universe*. Illustrated by John Rocco. Dutton Children's Books, 2008. ISBN 9780525469797. \$15.99. 32 p.

Reviewer: Larysa Bordner

Reading Level: Preschool, Primary

Rating: Excellent

Genre: Informational books; Picture books;

Subject: Solar system--Juvenile literature; Errors, Scientific--Juvenile literature; Books--Reviews;

The way that humans have understood the Earth and the solar system surrounding it has changed drastically over time. In the beginning, we thought the world was flat and that it was the center of the universe, but since then we have learned differently. Over time, we have learned many things about the solar system, including information about other planets, comets, gravity, and space travel. From all that we have learned in the past, one key thing that we are continually learning is that there is always more to be discovered and understood.

Boy, Were We Wrong About the Solar System is a witty approach to explain all that scientists have found out about the solar system over time. It explains what used to be common beliefs and then expounds on how these ideas have changed. The text is accompanied by vivid, bright pictures that enhance the text. One flaw is that the information often lacks detail. For example, Newton is referred to as, "Another scientist [who] watched an apple fall." Although there is a time line with names and dates included at the end, this book would not be an adequate source for finding detailed information. However, it would be a good introduction for a more detailed study of the solar system.

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