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Zoomer's Out-of-This-World Christmas

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Title: Zoomer’s Out-of-This-World Christmas
Author: Ned Young
Reviewer: Kristie Hinckley
Publisher: HarperCollins Publishers
Year: 2013
ISBN: 9780061999598
Pages: 32
Interest Level: Preschool, Primary
Rating: Outstanding

Review

Zoomer is the youngest of three dogs in his family. One day, Zoomer and his brothers are on the look-out for Santa in the sky, until a spaceship lands in their backyard and they meet a robot family! While the robot dad tries to fix the spaceship, Zoomer and his brothers enjoy a picnic, space games, and swimming in a force-field pool with the robot family. Robot dad determines that a key piece of the ship is missing and Zoomer sacrifices his tricycle in order to help the robots fix their vehicle. The dogs and robots part ways, but the next morning Zoomer wakes up to find a fancy new bicycle from Santa, who was impressed with Zoomer’s selfless act toward the robots.

Ned Young pays very close attention to detail in Zoomer’s Out-Of-This-World Christmas. From the childlike colored pencil doodles on the end pages to the white speckles of paint like a winter wonderland on each page, children will enjoy this book at Christmastime for many years to come. Made up “out-of-this-world” words are represented in bold, colorful letters. The message that this book conveys is that even small friends can make a difference and sometimes you have to sacrifice, which means giving up something for something even better. It is perfect for adults to read aloud to small children with big imaginations!