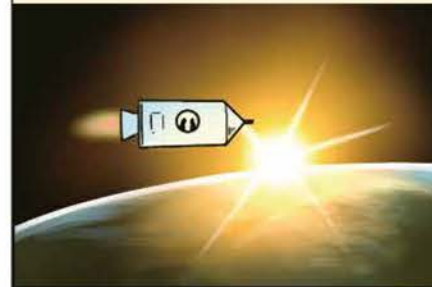


We know lots about the Solar System today, but it took hundreds of space explorers and thousands of years to discover what's actually out there.



Before clocks and calendars, people just used the Sun and the Moon to chart the passage of time.



For example, it's roughly a month from one full Moon to the next.



However, as time went on, people saw other links in the night sky.

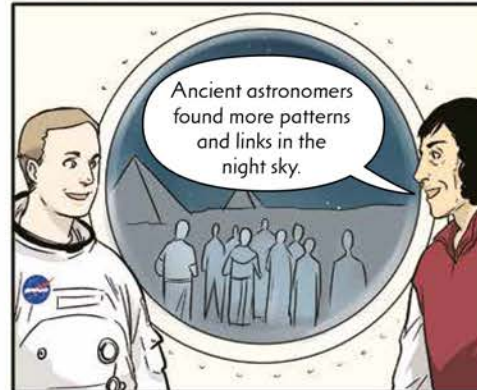
In 2000 BC, the Ancient Egyptians used the annual appearance of a specific star to predict when the river Nile would flood and bring precious water to their fields.



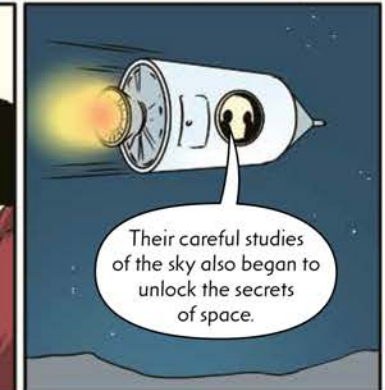
The star's appeared! The river's going to flood! Spread the word!



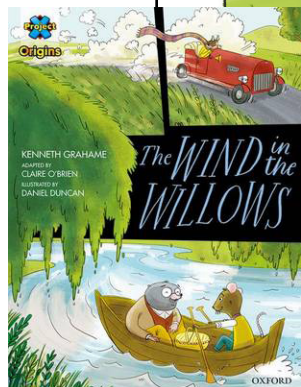
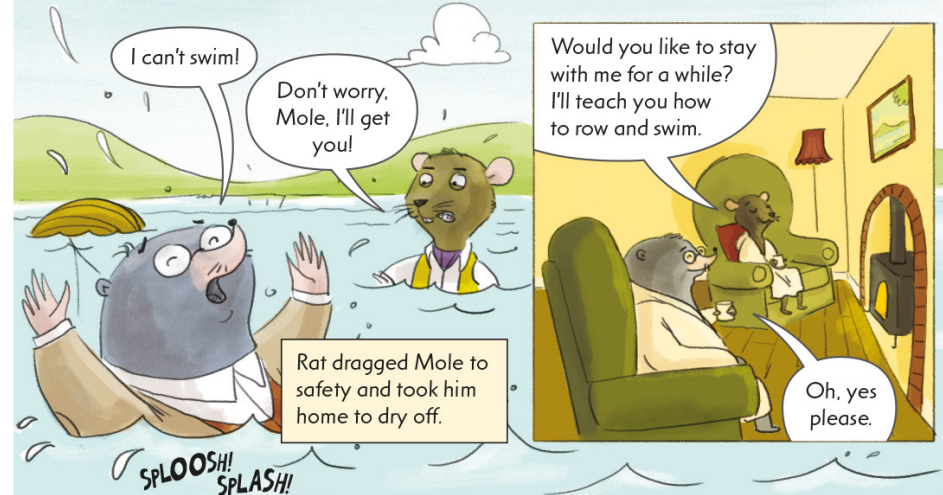
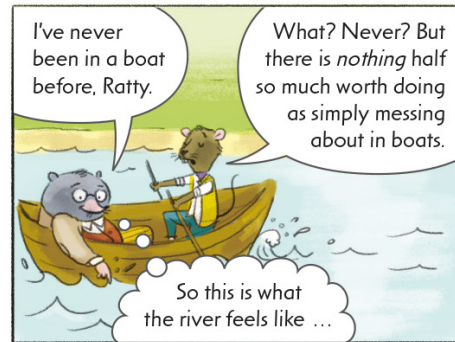
Ancient astronomers found more patterns and links in the night sky.



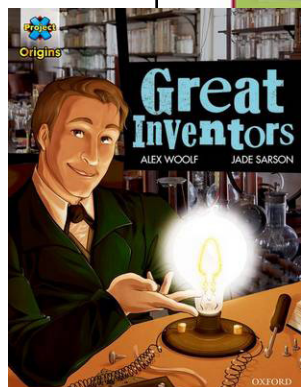
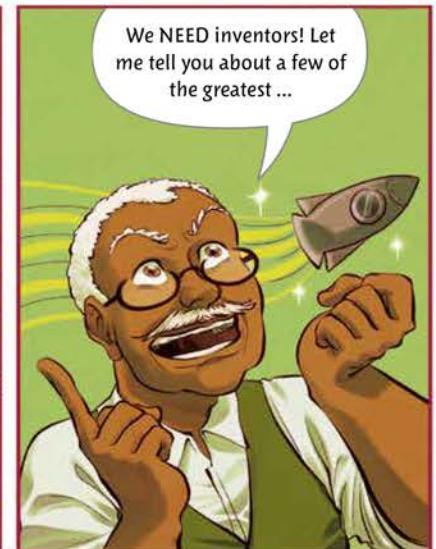
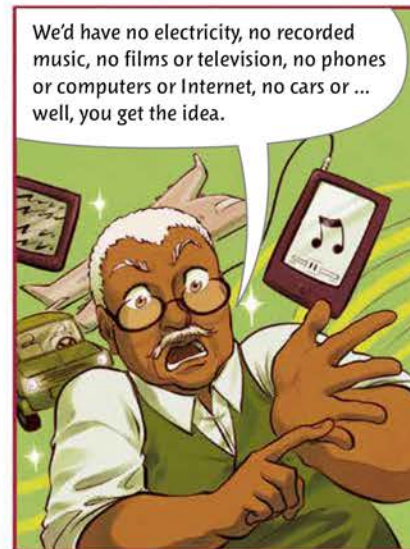
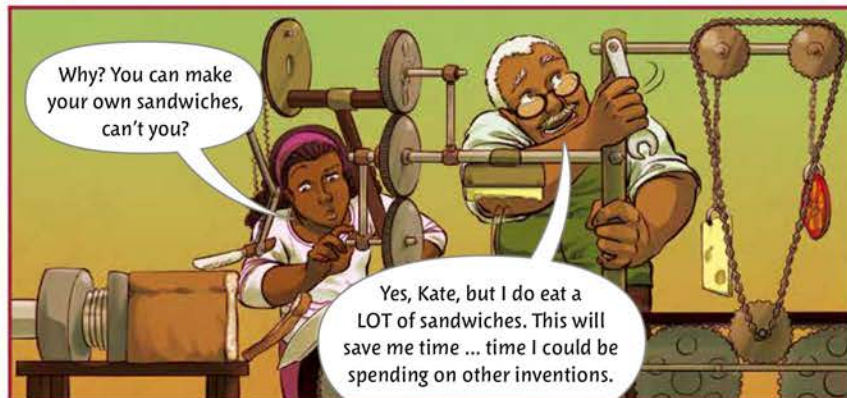
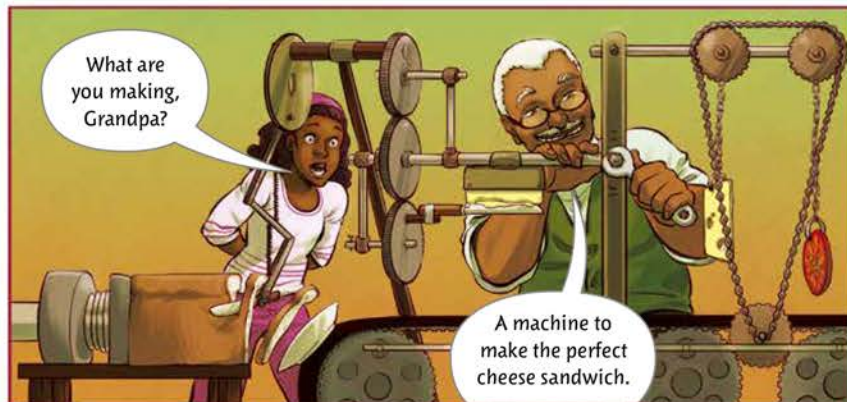
Their careful studies of the sky also began to unlock the secrets of space.



Chapter 1: The river bank



What's the point of inventing?



Chapter 1: Misselthwaite Manor

When Mary's parents died in India, she was sent to live with her uncle, Mr Craven, in England.



How much further, Mrs Medlock?



We'll get there when we get there.

Misselthwaite Manor ...



What do you think of your new home, Mary?

It's dark, gloomy and I hate it!



What a sour, ungrateful little girl!



What's in there?

Nothing you need to know about.

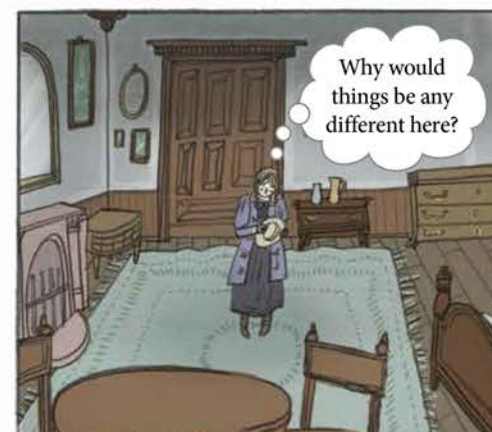


You're to confine yourself to this room. And don't expect Mr Craven to bother with you. He's leaving on a trip tomorrow.



SLAM!

That suits me fine! People never like me, and I never like people.



Why would things be any different here?

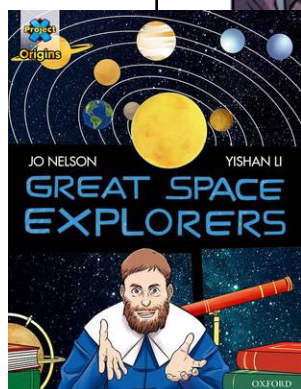
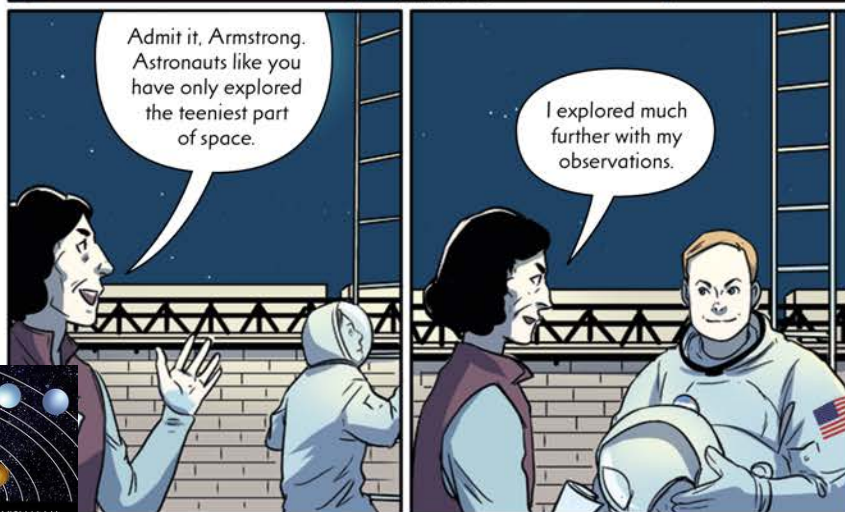


In another part of the house ...

The sooner I'm away from here, the better I'll feel.

Copernicus and Armstrong

For more than a thousand years, people have been exploring space in different ways – people like the astronomer Nicolaus Copernicus and the astronaut Neil Armstrong.



Alice could just see the White Rabbit up ahead.



She came to a long, low hall.



She tried a door.



All the doors were locked!



At the end of the hall, Alice came upon a table made of glass.



The golden key was too small for any of the locks – or they were too big for it.



The second time Alice went along the hall, she noticed a curtain. She pulled it aside ...



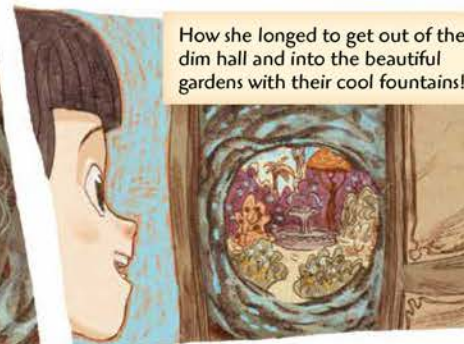
The key fitted!



Alice peered through the tiny door.



How she longed to get out of the dim hall and into the beautiful gardens with their cool fountains!



Even if I could get my head through, it'd be no use without my shoulders.



If only I could shut up like a telescope! I think I could, if I only knew how to begin.



The little door slammed shut.

Chapter 1: Stolen

Buck lived in an impressive house in the Santa Clara valley, California. The house stood back from the road and had a wide, cool veranda that ran round its four sides.

Although Buck belonged to Judge Miller, he was not a kennel dog: he was considered part of the family.

Buck!

Good dog!

Everybody loved Buck.

He would go hunting and swimming with the judge's sons.

Hey! Stop splashing, Buck!

Ha, ha, ha!

He would escort the judge's daughters on twilight or early morning walks.

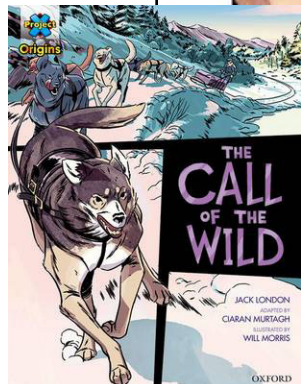
Fetch!

CHOMP!

And on long wintry nights, he lay at the judge's feet before a roaring fire.

Ahhhhh!

Life was good for Buck.



Sample pages taken from The Call of the Wild
Book Band Level Dark Red+
Oxford Level 19

What it takes to be a pioneer

