

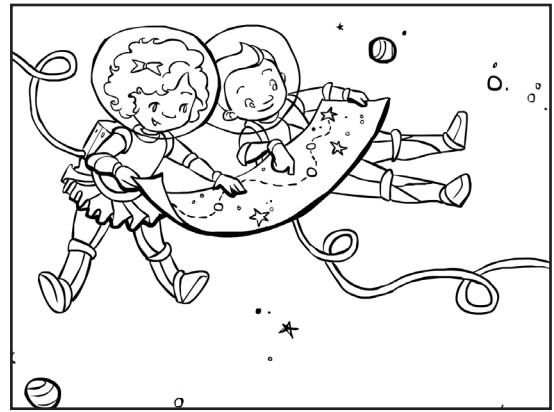
Name: _____

What Happened to Pluto?

Written by Nari Carter

Illustrated by Hollie Hibbert

Lexile®: 440L, 96 words



Earth is a planet. Mars is a planet.

Pluto **was** a planet. Now it is not.

Pluto was the farthest and smallest planet in our solar system.

Then, scientists said it wasn't a planet. So, what's up with that?

It's not that Pluto dropped out of space. Pluto is still out there.

Scientists just changed their ideas about what a planet is. Now, Pluto is called a dwarf planet.

Dwarf planets are too small to be planets.

Scientists believe there are other dwarf planets in our solar system.

Maybe you will find the next dwarf planet.

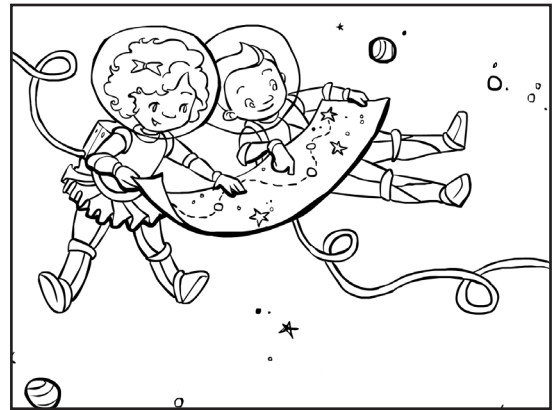
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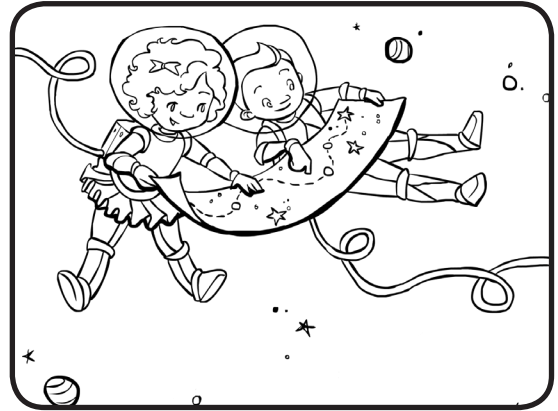
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Accuracy: # of reading errors: _____ (Indep. = 0–2, Instr. = 3–5, Frust. = 6+)
Speed: To calculate: $5760 \div$ _____ (Reading time in seconds) = _____ WPM

Name _____

What Happened to Pluto? Comprehension Questions

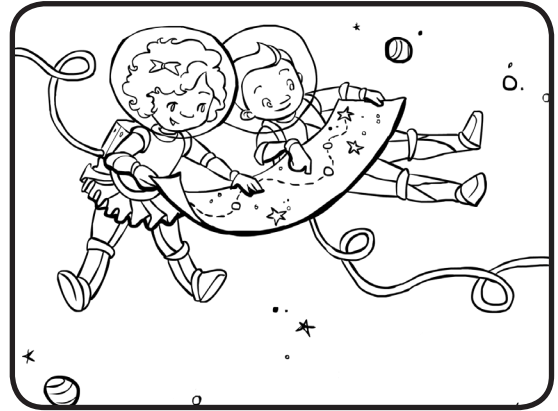


1. **What is Pluto called now?**
 - a. a dwarf planet
 - b. a solar system
 - c. a space dwarf
 - d. a solar dwarf
2. **Dwarf Planets are _____ than other planets.**
 - a. bigger
 - b. hotter
 - c. smaller
 - d. colder
3. **What do we learn about scientists from this passage?**
 - a. They go into space.
 - b. They change their ideas.
 - c. They think there is only one dwarf planet.
 - d. They think Pluto is a planet.
4. **What is the main idea of this passage?**
 - a. Pluto is too small to be a planet.
 - b. Pluto is far away.
 - c. Dwarf planets drop out of space every year.
 - d. All dwarf planets are called Pluto.

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What Happened to Pluto?

Comprehension Questions (Answer Key)



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word cards

Cut out the cards and practice learning the words.

planet

farthest

system

smallest

solar

scientists