



**Col. Alvin Drew**  
NASA Astronaut

1  
00:00:05,269 --> 00:00:03,110  
one of the fun things that the

2  
00:00:07,349 --> 00:00:05,279  
astronauts get to do on board the

3  
00:00:08,870 --> 00:00:07,359  
international space station is actually

4  
00:00:11,350 --> 00:00:08,880  
it gives them a great opportunity to

5  
00:00:13,190 --> 00:00:11,360  
interact with children in schools and

6  
00:00:15,030 --> 00:00:13,200  
people all around the globe

7  
00:00:16,870 --> 00:00:15,040  
and one such thing that they're doing is

8  
00:00:18,710 --> 00:00:16,880  
a little bit of story reading

9  
00:00:20,470 --> 00:00:18,720  
everyone loves a good story and what

10  
00:00:21,990 --> 00:00:20,480  
makes it even better sometimes is when

11  
00:00:24,150 --> 00:00:22,000  
an astronaut gets to read it to you from

12  
00:00:26,790 --> 00:00:24,160  
the international space station

13  
00:00:28,710 --> 00:00:26,800

so lori meigs out at the payload

14

00:00:30,390 --> 00:00:28,720

operations integration center at nasa's

15

00:00:32,310 --> 00:00:30,400

marshall space flight center

16

00:00:34,150 --> 00:00:32,320

huntsville alabama was able to catch up

17

00:00:36,229 --> 00:00:34,160

with jeffrey bennett who's an

18

00:00:38,709 --> 00:00:36,239

astrophysicist who's written several

19

00:00:40,869 --> 00:00:38,719

children's fiction books about max the

20

00:00:43,270 --> 00:00:40,879

dog's adventures on the space station

21

00:00:46,389 --> 00:00:43,280

the moon and also mars

22

00:00:48,869 --> 00:00:46,399

nasa astronaut colonel alvin drew red

23

00:00:50,869 --> 00:00:48,879

bennett's book max goes to the moon back

24

00:00:52,950 --> 00:00:50,879

when he was on the space station which

25

00:00:55,189 --> 00:00:52,960

ended up becoming a pretty big hit

26  
00:00:57,189 --> 00:00:55,199  
that recording and others will be made

27  
00:00:59,430 --> 00:00:57,199  
available to the public as part of a

28  
00:01:02,069 --> 00:00:59,440  
program to continuously encourage

29  
00:01:04,469 --> 00:01:02,079  
students to study science technology

30  
00:01:06,469 --> 00:01:04,479  
math and engineering

31  
00:01:07,990 --> 00:01:06,479  
so tell us about how you got into

32  
00:01:09,750 --> 00:01:08,000  
writing from an astrophysicist to

33  
00:01:11,830 --> 00:01:09,760  
writing children's books

34  
00:01:13,750 --> 00:01:11,840  
that's quite a jump there well i first

35  
00:01:15,510 --> 00:01:13,760  
got into writing college textbooks so

36  
00:01:17,350 --> 00:01:15,520  
that's actually my main line of work is

37  
00:01:19,590 --> 00:01:17,360  
writing college textbooks

38  
00:01:21,350 --> 00:01:19,600

and then i eventually found a little

39

00:01:22,789 --> 00:01:21,360

tiny bit of spare time and i had always

40

00:01:24,630 --> 00:01:22,799

wanted to write children's books because

41

00:01:25,510 --> 00:01:24,640

i used to teach elementary school as

42

00:01:27,749 --> 00:01:25,520

well

43

00:01:29,910 --> 00:01:27,759

and so finally was able to start doing

44

00:01:31,910 --> 00:01:29,920

it about 10 years ago did my first one

45

00:01:33,670 --> 00:01:31,920

max goes to the moon

46

00:01:36,950 --> 00:01:33,680

what's what's it about

47

00:01:39,590 --> 00:01:36,960

well so max is my dog he is a rottweiler

48

00:01:40,710 --> 00:01:39,600

and in max goes to the moon

49

00:01:42,389 --> 00:01:40,720

they

50

00:01:44,230 --> 00:01:42,399

take people back to the moon for the

51  
00:01:46,230 --> 00:01:44,240  
first time since the apollo era and

52  
00:01:47,510 --> 00:01:46,240  
inspire people enough to decide to build

53  
00:01:49,350 --> 00:01:47,520  
a colony

54  
00:01:52,069 --> 00:01:49,360  
on the moon where people can look back

55  
00:01:54,389 --> 00:01:52,079  
at earth and see how your perspective

56  
00:01:56,389 --> 00:01:54,399  
changes when you look back at earth from

57  
00:01:58,389 --> 00:01:56,399  
space we called the author up i got jeff

58  
00:02:00,149 --> 00:01:58,399  
bennett and said thinking about reading

59  
00:02:01,749 --> 00:02:00,159  
your story from space

60  
00:02:03,270 --> 00:02:01,759  
is it possible would you be upset if we

61  
00:02:04,789 --> 00:02:03,280  
took one of your books and you know and

62  
00:02:06,149 --> 00:02:04,799  
scanned it in and made a pdf of it

63  
00:02:07,830 --> 00:02:06,159

because i can't fly the physical book

64

00:02:09,109 --> 00:02:07,840

and he goes how about i just send you

65

00:02:11,510 --> 00:02:09,119

the file we was hoping he would just say

66

00:02:13,270 --> 00:02:11,520

yes okay and he was very helpful with it

67

00:02:14,790 --> 00:02:13,280

and so we felt like you know we'll show

68

00:02:16,150 --> 00:02:14,800

you the tape so here's me reading from

69

00:02:17,910 --> 00:02:16,160

the the flight deck of the space shuttle

70

00:02:19,589 --> 00:02:17,920

discovery and goes you mind if i put

71

00:02:21,750 --> 00:02:19,599

this out on youtube and he he didn't it

72

00:02:22,790 --> 00:02:21,760

was it was very very successful and very

73

00:02:24,630 --> 00:02:22,800

popular

74

00:02:26,630 --> 00:02:24,640

hi i'm astronaut albin drew aboard the

75

00:02:28,470 --> 00:02:26,640

space shuttle discovery like to read you

76

00:02:30,470 --> 00:02:28,480

a bedtime story this one is called max

77

00:02:32,790 --> 00:02:30,480

goes to the moon by jeffrey bennett

78

00:02:34,710 --> 00:02:32,800

illustrated by alan okamoto a really

79

00:02:36,150 --> 00:02:34,720

cool moment for you though was when an

80

00:02:38,070 --> 00:02:36,160

astronaut read your book for a space

81

00:02:40,390 --> 00:02:38,080

ring that was a pretty incredible moment

82

00:02:42,710 --> 00:02:40,400

when i got the phone call from patricia

83

00:02:44,550 --> 00:02:42,720

tribe saying that uh alvin drew would

84

00:02:46,150 --> 00:02:44,560

like to read one of my books from space

85

00:02:48,550 --> 00:02:46,160

i didn't believe it was a real phone

86

00:02:52,070 --> 00:02:48,560

call and once i finally accepted that it

87

00:02:54,070 --> 00:02:52,080

was i sent them the pdf in that case and

88

00:02:55,910 --> 00:02:54,080

astronaut drew read the book from the

89

00:02:58,070 --> 00:02:55,920

final mission of the space shuttle

90

00:03:00,710 --> 00:02:58,080

discovery and that's posted up on

91

00:03:02,550 --> 00:03:00,720

youtube the thing about the book is it's

92

00:03:04,869 --> 00:03:02,560

not just a children's book i mean the

93

00:03:06,790 --> 00:03:04,879

basic story itself is is you know meant

94

00:03:08,149 --> 00:03:06,800

so that you know children two three or

95

00:03:09,750 --> 00:03:08,159

four years old can enjoy the story and

96

00:03:11,030 --> 00:03:09,760

see the great pictures but on the side

97

00:03:13,030 --> 00:03:11,040

there are these things called big kid

98

00:03:15,190 --> 00:03:13,040

science where they go into all the

99

00:03:16,550 --> 00:03:15,200

actual physics and things like that so

100

00:03:18,070 --> 00:03:16,560

you know if you're like me and i used to

101  
00:03:19,589 --> 00:03:18,080  
have my favorite you know kids books i

102  
00:03:21,030 --> 00:03:19,599  
grew up with but you know you're 12 or

103  
00:03:22,949 --> 00:03:21,040  
13 you don't want to pull those books

104  
00:03:23,910 --> 00:03:22,959  
back off the shelf because like

105  
00:03:25,270 --> 00:03:23,920  
even though you might still like the

106  
00:03:26,390 --> 00:03:25,280  
pictures and everything else so now

107  
00:03:28,550 --> 00:03:26,400  
you've got an excuse to pull the book

108  
00:03:30,070 --> 00:03:28,560  
off the shelf and go i'm reading up on

109  
00:03:31,750 --> 00:03:30,080  
the science here ma that's why i've got

110  
00:03:33,589 --> 00:03:31,760  
the book back off so

111  
00:03:35,030 --> 00:03:33,599  
even now it's got good science center

112  
00:03:36,550 --> 00:03:35,040  
and i like pulling it down off the shelf

113  
00:03:37,750 --> 00:03:36,560

and pretending that i'm getting science

114

00:03:39,910 --> 00:03:37,760

out of it too

115

00:03:41,830 --> 00:03:39,920

hi i'm nasa astronaut mike hopkins on

116

00:03:43,910 --> 00:03:41,840

board the international space station

117

00:03:47,110 --> 00:03:43,920

and it's one of my favorite times it's

118

00:03:49,589 --> 00:03:47,120

story time from space hi i am jax

119

00:03:52,789 --> 00:03:49,599

astronaut koichi wakata

120

00:03:55,429 --> 00:03:52,799

welcome to story time from space

121

00:03:57,990 --> 00:03:55,439

well after uh astronaut drew read max

122

00:04:00,550 --> 00:03:58,000

goes to the moon from the discovery that

123

00:04:03,110 --> 00:04:00,560

was sort of a pilot project and patricia

124

00:04:05,910 --> 00:04:03,120

tribe went out with the ready to leave

125

00:04:07,670 --> 00:04:05,920

demo tape and uh pulled a lot of

126  
00:04:09,350 --> 00:04:07,680  
teachers and looked into it and people

127  
00:04:12,070 --> 00:04:09,360  
were really excited about the idea and

128  
00:04:12,869 --> 00:04:12,080  
then cases got excited about the idea as

129  
00:04:15,030 --> 00:04:12,879  
well

130  
00:04:17,270 --> 00:04:15,040  
and they decided they would take all

131  
00:04:20,069 --> 00:04:17,280  
five of my children's books up to the

132  
00:04:21,909 --> 00:04:20,079  
station to be read from the cupola

133  
00:04:23,510 --> 00:04:21,919  
up there so it's the four max books and

134  
00:04:25,350 --> 00:04:23,520  
a fifth one i have called the wizard who

135  
00:04:27,110 --> 00:04:25,360  
saved the world which also has a little

136  
00:04:31,510 --> 00:04:27,120  
bit of space in it thank you for

137  
00:04:34,070 --> 00:04:31,520  
listening the wizard who saved the world