

# Kite Rider

by Guy Belleranti

I was bored. I'd finished my chores, homework, and even two library books. I called my friend, D.J., but he couldn't come over. I couldn't ride my bike either 'cause I had a flat tire.



I stomped out great — 70's and breezy cool you down, making

Flying kites! Yes, I took my kite out of my closet

In no time, the kite gripped the string and my feet but air. Yikes! My

We sailed high above skyscrapers. I held on to a blue and white ball

flying kites.

and dug my rocket

into the sky. I

felt nothing under my

downtown

in. The Earth was just

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Mars came and went. The same with Jupiter, Saturn, and Uranus. I'd read about each in school. Now I was seeing them with my very own eyes. But how much farther would we travel? I was hungry and tired.

"Turn around, Rocket!" I called.

My kite partially turned. Straight toward Neptune!

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"No," I cried. "Turn more."

Rocket tried, but Neptune's gravitational pull was stronger. Would I ever see Mom, Dad and D.J. again? Tears stung my eyes and rolled down my cheeks. There was nothing I could do. Nothing at all.

I wiped away the tears and set my jaw. No, there was something I could do. I could be brave. I could not give up. "Try again, Rocket," I yelled. "Turn."

Then I saw a flash and felt a tug so sharp that I almost lost my hold on the kite string. We were being pulled toward it. Rocket had hooked on to an asteroid!

"Giddy-up, asteroid!"

Past Uranus we

"Yippee!" I shouted. "Will we crash into it? I should know!"

I kept them close. The Man in the Moon was

"Hope you had fun!"

Suddenly, the kite was free and headed straight back to Earth. Rocket and I landed safely in the soft sand of our neighborhood playground. We were immediately surrounded by Mom, Dad and D. J. What a ride I had taken! I brushed myself off and began to tell them about it — until a breeze whipped up again.

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- 1) Why does the boy love breezes?
- a) They cool you down.
  - b) They make sounds in leaves.
  - c) They make kite-flying easy.
  - d) All of the above.

- 2) There was a moment when the boy was afraid of not being able to see Mom, Dad and his kite.  True  False

- 3) Why was the boy so afraid? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- 4) List out the places where the boy flew his kite. \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- 5) If you were the boy in the story, would you enjoy the whole thing, or would you be frightened?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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