



## ***Moonman*** **by Ned Barraud**

**Publisher: Craig Potton Publishing**

**RRP \$19.99**

Small children who gaze up to the sky at night often wonder about the mysterious shining globe so far away. The moon has prompted many imaginative bedtime stories.

*Moonman* by Weta Digital texture artist, Ned Barraud, explores the creative potential of the celestial body. Barraud turns the story around and imagines a Moonman who looks out at night and wonders about the strange blue planet he sees from his lunar home. Each night he sweeps the surface of the moon and looks out beyond the stars to the glowing planet, Earth.

One evening, the curious Moonman catches a ride with a passing shooting star and lands on Earth. Here he discovers a place vastly different from his own home. He makes some wonderful discoveries, plus he experiences one or two scary moments. Then, when he stares up at his shining Moon home he wonders how he will ever return.

The long-limbed Moonman is reminiscent of 1960s children's book illustrations. He's a cheerful character with an appealing face. Night-time scenes pose challenges for artists, yet Barraud lifts each page with twinkling stars, bright-eyed creatures, and the moon casting light on the landscape.

*Moonman* offers an intriguing twist to the man in the Moon story, and opens up the potential for discussions about 'what's out there'. The book is also available in hardback at \$29.99.

**Author / illustrator's website:**

[www.nedbarraud.com](http://www.nedbarraud.com)

**Reviewed by children's book author,  
Jean Bennett**

