



Gravity by Jason Chin

Publisher: Andersen Press

RRP \$19.99

What is the force that keeps our feet on the ground? Why do things that we throw up in the air fall back down again? How do the planets in the solar system stay in orbit? What is gravity?

These are puzzling concepts for young minds to grapple with. *Gravity*, by award-winning illustrator Jason Chin, attempts to simplify this complex subject by combining a brief, explanatory storyline with evocative illustrations.

The eye-catching artwork is integral to the minimalistic text. Toys and everyday objects, including the book itself, are part of the connection Chin makes with readers. Using these familiar items, the central character does what children often do - he throws things up in the air and watches what happens to them. Junior scientists will be encouraged to try the same experiments, thereby taking part in the learning process.

Helpful, final pages extend the information about gravity for readers keen to know more about the invisible force that affects our world. To test the effectiveness of the book, the reviewer gave it to an eight-year-old boy to read then questioned him about gravity. He responded with a clear understanding of the concepts the author has presented.

It's refreshing to find a book that challenges young readers and draws them into discoveries about the wonders of the universe. It will be an excellent resource for home and classroom discussion.

Author / illustrator's website:

www.jasonchin.net/

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

