

# Stink: Solar System Superhero

by Megan McDonald

illustrated by Peter H. Reynolds



When Stink learns that Pluto is no longer considered a planet (due to its small size), he is compelled to defend all things small—planets and people alike! Use these classroom activities to explore more about the solar system and to encourage taking a stand for something important.

## Mother Mnemonic

A mnemonic device is a way to help remember a list of things. In Stink's case, it's the order of the planets ("My Very Excellent Mother Just Served Us Nine Pizzas"). Challenge students to come up with other sayings that can be used to remember the order of the planets, as Stink and Skunk do. (You may wish to have a class discussion first about whether the list should include *P* for *Pluto*.) Hold a class contest for the best saying. Then ask students: What other lists might a mnemonic be useful for? Some examples might be the names of the Great Lakes or the colors of the rainbow.

## Planet Cards

Illustrated by Peter H. Reynolds, the comics in *Stink: Solar System Superhero* contain facts and miscellaneous tidbits about the planets. Have students create their own "planet trading cards" using index cards. Explain that each card must focus on a planet and include at least one fact about it. Invite students to decorate their cards, then share and/or trade them with fellow classmates.

For more ideas, please visit [www.stinkmoody.com](http://www.stinkmoody.com) or [www.candlewick.com](http://www.candlewick.com)

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## Pluto: Number 134340

Pluto, the newly termed dwarf planet, is now referred to as Number 134340. Stink is very displeased with this classification! Have your class help Stink's cause by coming up with a new name and tagline for Pluto. One example might be: "Pluto, the Puny Powerhouse."



## Honk If You Love Pluto!

Stink makes bumper stickers professing his love and support for the dwarf planet. Have students create their own bumper stickers, either for or against "Pluto the Planet." They might incorporate the tagline they created in "Pluto: Number 134340."