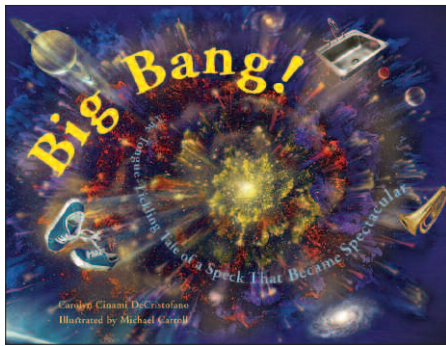


# Make a Big Bang in the Classroom



1-57091-618-7 \$16.95 HA  
1-57091-619-5 \$6.95 PA

Through reading the book *Big Bang!*, students will

- Learn the current scientific theory about the origins of the universe.
- Explore the relationships among theory, evidence, inquiry, and technology.
- Appreciate how text and images connect to create mental models of big ideas.

1. Orient the students to the book, explaining that the book has two different kinds of writing: poetic verse and narrative prose.
2. Read the verse aloud. After reading, discuss the following questions:
  - What comments or questions do you have? (Record these, but defer going into any of them at this time.)
  - What patterns of letters (or alliteration) do you hear? (Record these on the board.)
3. Ask teams of students to read the narrative text for themselves. Each team should focus on a passage corresponding to a section of the verse. Ask the following questions:
  - What similarities or differences do you find between the verse and the text?
  - How does the text explain or shed light on the verse? How does the verse help or support the text?
4. Discuss students' thoughts about how the illustrations relate to the text and the verse.
  - In what ways do the images help make the meaning clear?
  - How do both the text and the images convey the tone and the ideas of the book?
5. Writing and illustrating opportunities:
  - Ask students to write a book review for the school website, library bulletin board, or school newspaper. Email it to the author, and she will write back to you. [carolyn@carolyndecristofano.com](mailto:carolyn@carolyndecristofano.com)
  - Ask students to draw pictures that illustrate the meaning of passages in other science books.
  - Have students write verses about the science topics they have learned about earlier in the year.