

Astrojots: Explaining space and its exploration with cartoons

Geraint H. Jones (1,2)

(1) Mullard Space Science Laboratory, University College London, UK,

(2) Centre for Planetary Sciences at UCL/Birkbeck, London, UK (g.h.jones@ucl.ac.uk)

Abstract

Astrojots is a web-based project for which the author - an active planetary scientist - creates cartoon strips to explain aspects of planetary science and exploration, space science, and astronomy. The aim of the strips is to be informative and engaging, with a good sprinkling of humour!

Astrojots cartoons are not exclusively targeted at school pupils; the intended audience is as wide as possible, and for all ages. The cartoon strips are created under a Creative Commons licence, allowing them to be freely printed and distributed, as long as they are not amended and that their source is identified. The strips are released every few weeks, and the usual format is suitable for printing on A4 paper for further free distribution by educators. The level of detail covered in the strips varies – sometimes very basic topics are addressed, suitable for pre-High School children, while other strips cover more advanced fields.

On social media, Astrojots can be followed on Twitter at

@astrojots

and on Facebook at

www.facebook.com/astrojots/

The project website is

www.astrojots.com

The project is complemented by public talks and school visits in the UK, related space data sonification activities, and a parallel Welsh-language project –

www.gofota.cymru

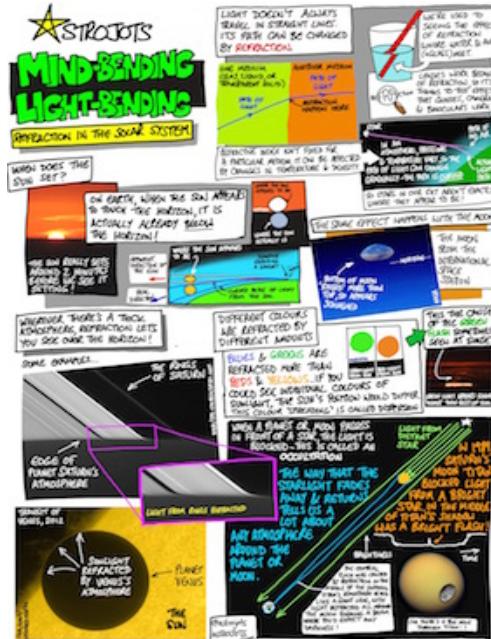


Figure 1: An example Astrojots strip.

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