



Bound to Stay Bound Books

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History Smashers is a middle-grade nonfiction book series by Kate Messner that debunks historical myths and presents a more accurate version of events through text, illustrations, photos, and graphic panels. The series covers major historical topics using primary sources and sidebars to engage young readers with little-known facts and details. It aims to provide a more honest and complete picture of history, including the failings and mistakes of the past.

History Smashers

NONFICTION

AGES 8-12

big space success to coincide with a planned visit with President Eisenhower. The Soviets' unmanned *Luna 2* launched on September 12 and reached the moon in about a day and a half, while Khrushchev was in the United States.

A month later, US officials decided the *Atlas* wasn't the right rocket to get American astronauts into space. President Eisenhower moved Wernher von Braun's team from Huntsville to Cape Canaveral and made plans to use the Redstone rocket instead.



NASA'S FIRST MONKEYNAUTS

Before the United States could send a man into space, engineers had to solve the problem of how to get him home. By 1959, the Soviets had sent dozens of dogs into space and returned them safely to Earth.

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The only animals the United States had been able to send into space and return safely to Earth were fruit flies. But that changed in 1959, when NASA pulled off a successful spaceflight with two monkeys named Able and Baker.



A Jupiter RM-16 prepares to launch from Cape Canaveral on May 28, 1959, with Able and Baker on board.

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Sample Pages

Cover Image



More Books in this Series:

