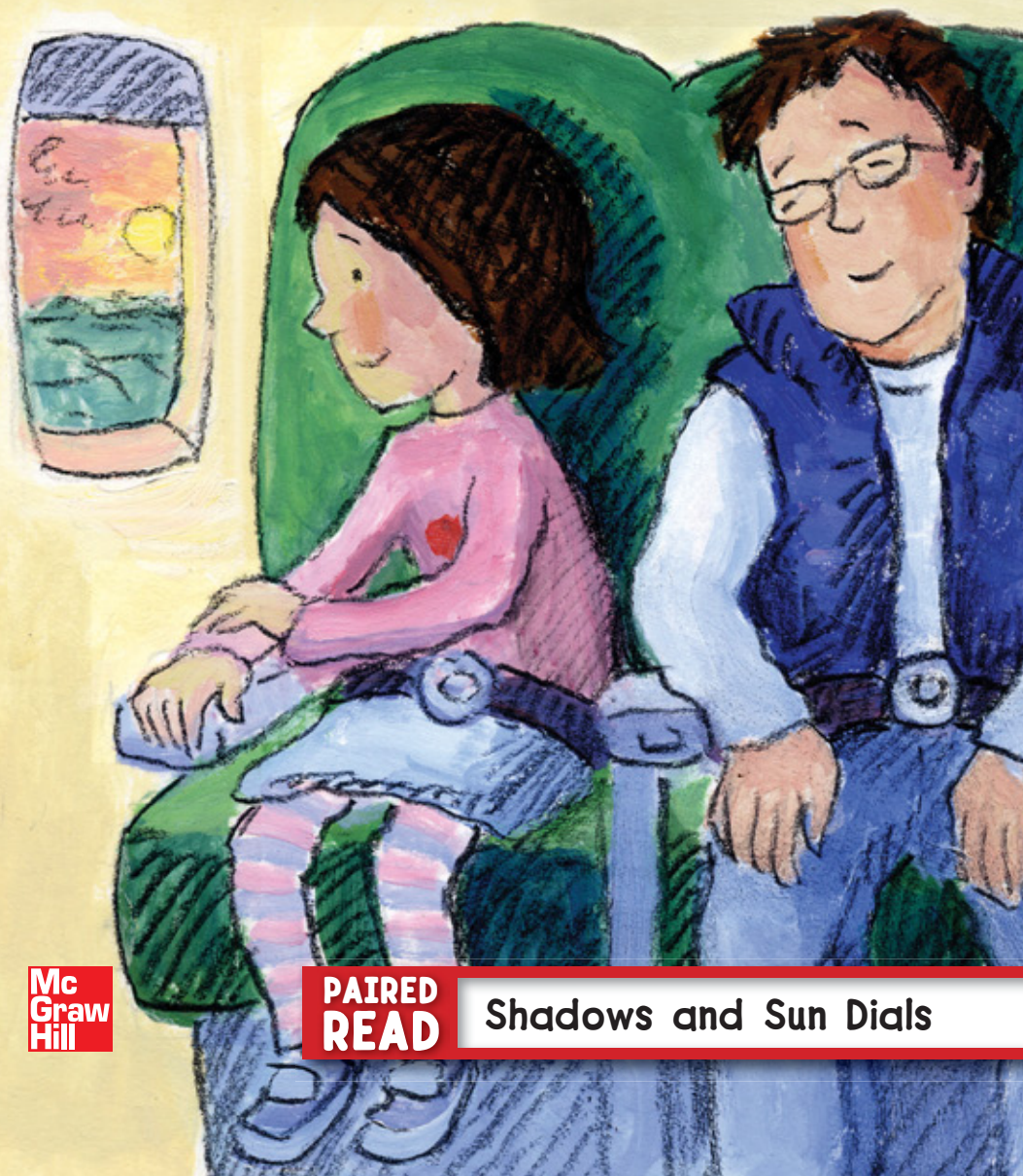


Fiction

# A Special Sunset

by Loretta Wilcox

illustrated by Jeremy Tugeau



Mc  
Graw  
Hill

PAIRED  
READ

Shadows and Sun Dials

## STRATEGIES & SKILLS

### Comprehension

Strategy: Reread

Skill: Sequence

### Phonics

Long *i*: *i*, *y*, *igh*, *ie*

### Vocabulary Strategy

Compound Words

### Vocabulary

adventure, delighted,  
dreamed, enjoy(ed),  
grumbled, moonlight,  
neighbor, nighttime

### Content Standards

Science

Earth and Space Science

Word count: 223\*\*

\*\*The total word count is based on words in the running text and headings only. Numerals and words in captions, labels, diagrams, charts, and sidebars are not included.

CCSS

Genre Fiction



Essential Question

What can we see in the sky?

# A Special Sunset



by Loretta Wilcox

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**PAIRED  
READ**

Shadows and Sun Dials . . . . .17



A neighbor took Maria and her dad to the airport.

Maria was delighted. She and Dad were going to fly on a plane! Her adventure was about to begin.



She had dreamed of flying.  
Now it was coming true.  
Maria could not wait to get  
on the plane.



**STOP AND CHECK**

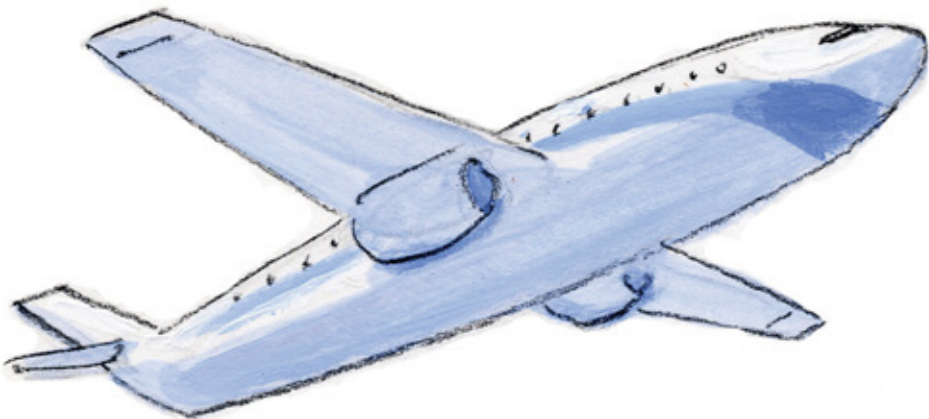
What has happened in the story so far?



“Our plane is late,” Maria grumbled. Then Dad pointed. At last, it had arrived.



Maria sat next to the window.  
She looked out at the airport.  
Soon, the plane took off.

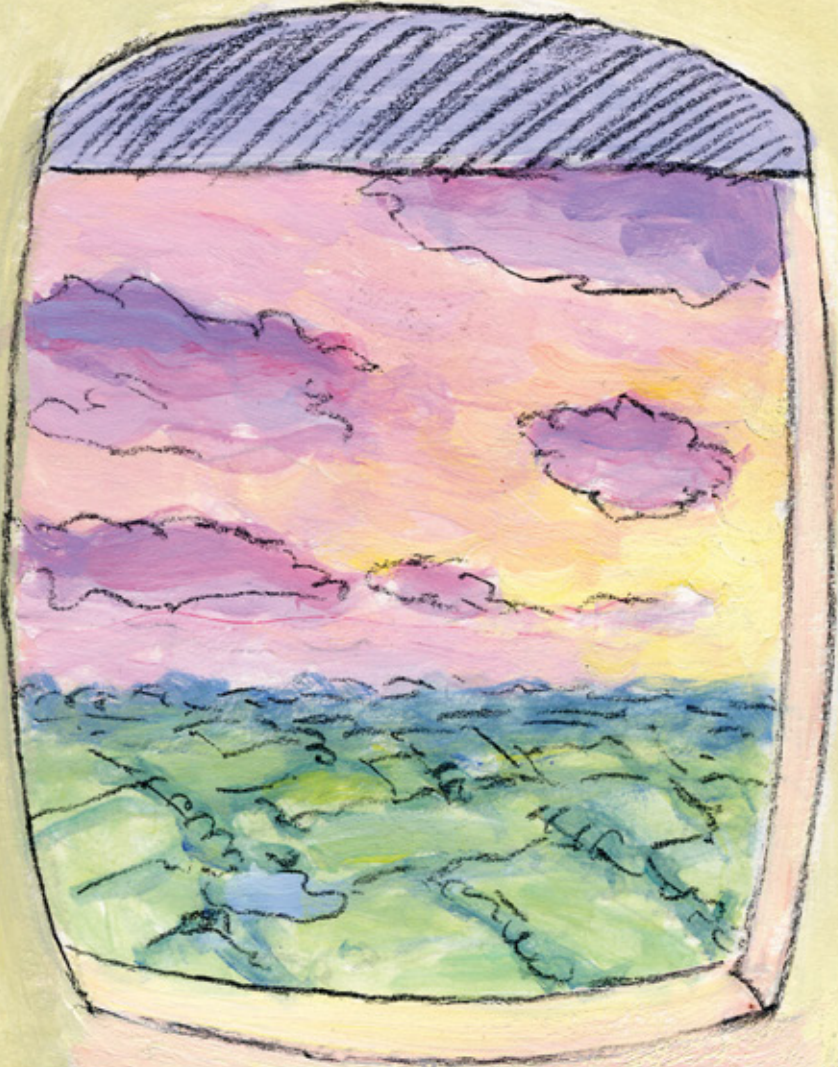




The plane climbed high in the sky. Maria kept looking out the window. She enjoyed watching the land fall away.



The sun was setting. Its light made things glow.



They passed by trees.  
They passed by houses.  
They passed by lakes.



**STOP AND CHECK**

What does Maria see from  
the window?

Then Maria noticed something strange. The sunset did not move.



“Dad,” Maria said. “The sunset is following us! How does it do that?”

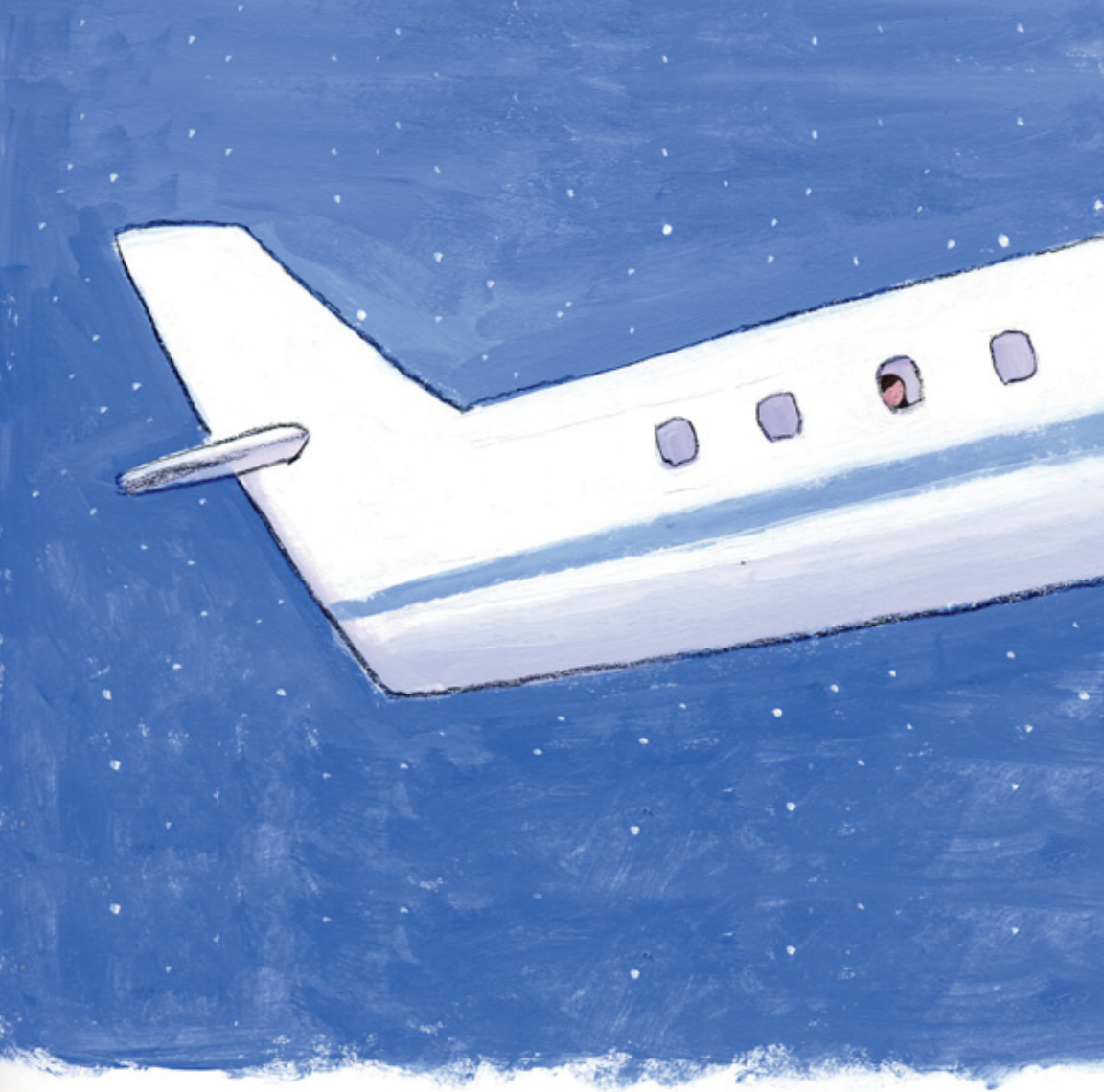


**STOP AND CHECK**

Why does Maria ask her father about the sunset?

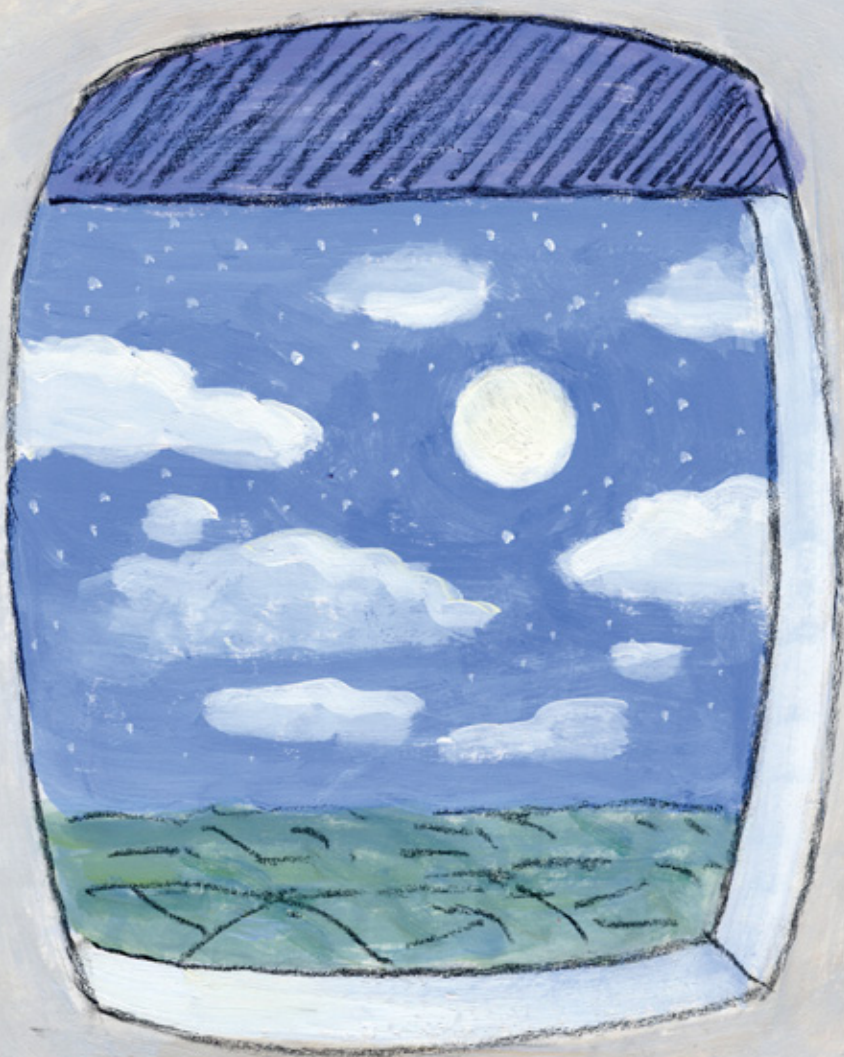
“The sun is very far away,”  
Dad said. “Things on the  
ground are much closer.  
That’s why they seem to  
move away, and the sunset  
does not.”





The sun had set. Now  
it was nighttime. Maria  
looked out at the sky.

Clouds glowed in the  
moonlight.





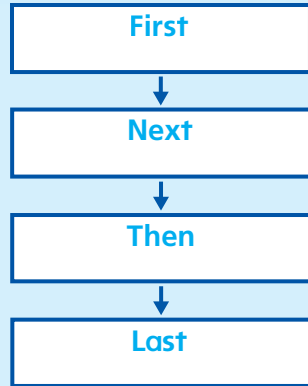
She knew the moon was far away. So it would follow them too!



# Respond to Reading

## Summarize

Use the chart to help you summarize *A Special Sunset*.



## Text Evidence

1. Is *A Special Sunset* fiction or nonfiction? Why? **Genre**
2. What happens after Maria sees the sunset? **Sequence**
3. What does the word *moonlight* on page 14 mean? **Compound Words**
4. Write about what you think may happen next to Maria.


**Write About Reading**

## Compare Texts

Read about another special thing the sun can do.

# Shadows and Sun Dials





A sundial only uses shadows to tell time during the day

You have a shadow. Everyone does. You can play games with shadows. You can make shadow animals. You can also use shadows to tell time.

Sundials are the oldest way to tell time. They work because shadows have a pattern. They move from one side of an object to the other as the sun moves. The shadow on the sundial tells the time.



### **Make Connections**

What did Maria see from the plane? **Essential Question**

What do shadows and sunsets have in common? **Text to Text**

# Focus on Literary Elements

**Plot** The plot tells story events in sequence: first, next, then, last.

**What to Look For** In *A Special Sunset*, a girl flies on a plane. First, she arrives at the airport. Next, the plane takes off. Then she sees things go by. Then she sees the sunset following the plane. Last, Dad explains why.

## Your Turn

Imagine a fiction story about things you see in the sky. Make a sequence chart that shows *First*, *Next*, *Then*, and *Last*. Write one thing in each part.

Fiction

# Thinkmark

## Setting

There are two settings in *A Special Sunset*. What are they?

## Characters

How would you describe Maria?

## Sequence of Events

What happened **first, then, next, and last** in *A Special Sunset*?

## Make Connections

Have you ever seen the sunset while riding in a car or a bus? Describe what it was like.