**USDOE/IES Teacher Story Guide**

**SHORT FORM**

**Story Title:** Zathura a Space Adventure

**Unit:** 3  
**Pages:** 360 – 381

### Word Families and Definitions for Steps 1-2-3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Word</th>
<th>STEP 1</th>
<th>Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>shattered</td>
<td>STEP 1</td>
<td>broken suddenly into many small pieces, or caused something to break in this way</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>smashed</td>
<td>STEP 2</td>
<td>to break something into many small pieces, usually by crushing or slamming, or be broken in this way</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>fragmented</td>
<td>STEP 2</td>
<td>broken into small pieces (fragments)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>destroyed</td>
<td>STEP 3</td>
<td>to damage something or reduce something to pieces; not repairable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cracked</td>
<td>STEP 3</td>
<td>broke without a complete separation of parts</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Key Word</th>
<th>TARGET WORDS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>wailed</td>
<td>howled</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>plummeting</td>
<td>falling</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Teacher Questions for Steps 1 - 2 - 3

**STEP 1 Questions:**  
(Note - Write key words on board and teach definitions before reading the story.)

1. What does the word <key word> mean in this sentence?  
2. How does the word <key word> contribute toward the overall meaning of this story so far?

**STEP 2 Questions:**  
(Note - Write target words on board and teach definitions before reading three-sentence blocks.)

1. What does the word <target word> mean in this sentence?  
2. If the author had chosen <target word>, how would it contribute toward the overall meaning of this story?  
3. Explain whether using the word <target word just substituted> instead of <previous target or key word read in sentence> changed the meaning of the sentence or story.

**STEP 3 Questions:**  
(Note - Write target words on board, BUT DO NOT TEACH DEFINITIONS IN STEP 3.)

1. What does the word <target word> mean in this sentence?  
2. If the author had chosen <target word>, how would it contribute toward the overall meaning of this story?  
3. Explain whether using the word <target word substituted> instead of <previous target word read in sentence> changed the meaning of the sentence or story.

### Expansion Task using Key and Target Words

**STEP 4 Write all words without definitions on the board in a “random” arrangement.  
Do NOT group words by meaning.**

**Variation 1:** Students select words and use them in oral sentences.

**Variation 2:** Teacher selects words for students to use in oral sentences.

*Note 1 - Sentences should describe something that a student has done or experienced.  
Note 2 - Expansion tasks should be used after Step 3 and every 2-3 weeks for cumulative review.*