

***The Universe Ate My Homework***  
**by David Zeltser and Illustrated by Ayesha L. Rubio**  
**Scripted by: Erin Smith & Meghan Brockmeier**

Parts (5):

- Abby
- Mom
- Dad
- Narrator 1
- Narrator 2

**Mom:** Aaaaaaby? Where are you? Time to do your homework!

**Narrator 1:** Abby froze. Her least favorite thing in the whole wide universe was homework. She and Comet had WAY better things to do.

**Narrator 2:** Like stargazing! They settled into their secret spot just as the first star was coming out.

**Mom:** Abby?

**Narrator 1:** Ugh! Mom was closer than she thought! Abby snuck around the house toward her dad.

**Abby:** What are you thinking about, Dad?

**Narrator 2:** He was a physicist and always puzzling about something or other.

**Dad:** Our universe.

**Abby:** Our universe? Wait, do you mean there are other universes?

**Narrator 1:** Her dad's eyes twinkled like stars.

**Dad:** I think so! I've actually been working on some ideas for how to make a baby universe.

**Narrator 2:** He kissed her forehead.

**Dad:** Now, don't you have some homework to do?

**Abby:** (*eyes lighting up*) Yep! And I know just where to do it.

**Narrator 1:** She sneaked into her father's study. Comet crept after her.

**Abby:** (*whispering*) Aha! (*picking a paper off her dad's desk*)

**Narrator 2:** The paper read "HOW TO MAKE A BABY UNIVERSE. Step 1: Make a mini black hole. Step 2: Add Energy!" Abby grinned. She had plenty of energy.

**Abby:** But hold on...what's a black hole, and how do I make a mini one? *(Pause)*  
Aha!

**Narrator 1:** The paper read "HOW TO MAKE A MINI BLACK HOLE. Step 1: Choose anything you want to get rid of. Step 2: Squeeze it really, really hard."

**Narrator 2:** Abby smiled as she took one last look at her homework. She crumpled it up and squeezed it really, really hard. Nothing happened.

**Narrator 1:** She kept reading..."You will need to squeeze so hard that the atoms in your object get very, very close to one another. So close that the atoms' gravity will take over and smash them together. This will create an invisible object, called a mini black hole. Its gravity is so strong that it will pull in anything that gets too close. It is horrible because even light can't escape it."

**Mom:** Abby? Are you doing your homework?

**Abby:** I've got it in my hands, Mom!

**Narrator 2:** Abby didn't totally understand about the atoms, but she understood about the squeezing. She squeezed with all her might. Even harder than she squeezed her mom's hand during thunderstorms.

**Narrator 1:** POP! Her homework had become a black hole!

**Narrator 2:** Abby peered in awe at the empty space where her homework had just been. BZZZZZ went to a nearby fly.

**Narrator 1:** FWOOP went to the black hole, sucking the fly in.

**Narrator 2:** Comet nosed forward to investigate. His ears began to stretch. It was the black hole's gravity! He yelped as Abby yanked him back by his tail.

**Abby:** Okay, Comet. Next step. To make a universe, we need to add energy! *(She began to jump up and down)*

**Narrator 1:** Comet wagged his tail furiously.

**Narrator 2:** Suddenly Abby could see something new forming. It was no longer pulling things into it. The black hold had turned into a baby universe. At first, Abby's universe was just a little bubbling broth of energy.

**Abby:** Keep wagging, Comet! (*turning cartwheels*)

**Narrator 1:** Her universe began to expand, and particles began to form. But it didn't push on anything as it expanded. Instead of taking up room, it somehow seemed to be creating its own space.

**Abby:** Faster, Comet!

**Narrator 2:** As her universe grew, the particles clumped together and made bigger clouds of gas. The clouds began to sparkle with explosions. Stars were being born!

**Dad:** (Calling from outside the room) Abby, did you finish your homework?

**Narrator 1:** Abby froze. It was her dad's voice outside the door.

**Abby:** Kind of.

**Narrator 2:** Abby's dad entered the room and gazed in wonder.

**Dad:** You made this?

**Abby:** Yep! And I was thinking about living in it for a while. No homework in there, right?

**Dad:** Probably not. The only problem is once you're in there, I don't know of any way out.

**Narrator 1:** Abby looked at her dad. Then she looked at the baby universe. Abby ran to her dad and hugged him tight.

**Abby:** (*while hugging Dad*) I think I'll stay.

**Narrator 2:** As Abby and her mom gazed at the milky way, Abby's dad spotted Comet wolfing down the cookies.

**Dad:** I guess no universe is perfect.

**Abby:** Yeah, but they're all amazing.

**END**