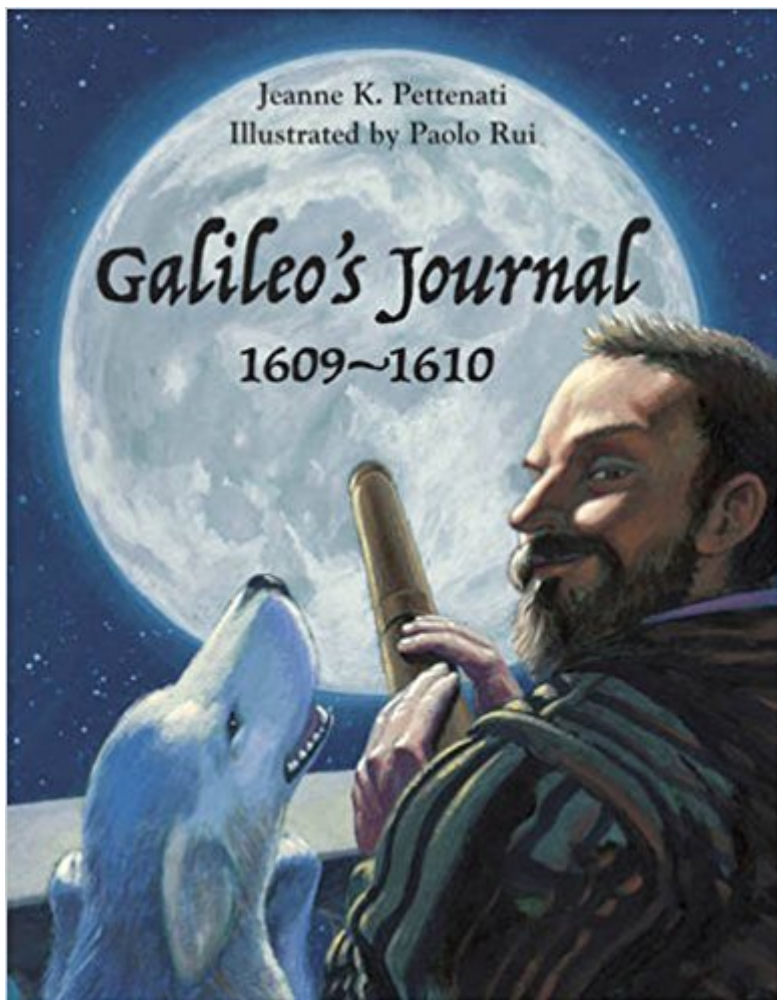


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# Galileo's Journal: 1609 - 1610



## Synopsis

On his summer vacation, Galileo Galilei hears about the newly invented telescope and decides to build one of his own. Turning his new "spyglass" to the night sky, he sees things that no one has ever seen before. He discovers that the Milky Way is made of stars, and that the moon has mountains. He also notices a strange formation of "stars" that will eventually turn people's understanding of the world upside down. Fictional journal accounts capture the famous Italian scientist's curiosity and wonder as he makes some of the most amazing discoveries in history.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 0660 (What's this?)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Charlesbridge; 1 edition (June 1, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1570918805

ISBN-13: 978-1570918803

Product Dimensions: 8.4 x 0.2 x 11.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 3 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #851,704 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #78 in [Books > Children's Books > Biographies > European](#) #349 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Physics](#) #1316 in [Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Historical](#)

Age Range: 6 - 9 years

Grade Level: 1 - 4

## Customer Reviews

Grade 2-4 – This picture book combines attractive illustrations and lively text to provide an introductory glimpse into the life of Galileo, imagining what he might have written in his journal. It focuses on the scientist's improvement of the telescope and his subsequent realization that planets other than the Earth also have moons and rotate around the sun rather than the Earth. While the story joins fabricated thoughts and dialogue with actual science and biography, Pettenati does a good job, both in the text and in an author's note about the scientist's life, of clearly pointing out the difference between her creation and historical data. A fictional dog, Luna, adds playfulness to the story and gives it a more personal feel, as do Ruis lighthearted illustrations. Pair this title with Peter S. F. 's exceptional *Starry Messenger* (Farrar, 1996) to provide a fun introduction to Galileo and to

inspire young readers to explore further. Deanna Romriell, Salt Lake City Library, UT  
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Gr. 1-3. In this fictional journal, Galileo records events during eight months of his life, a pivotal time when he heard about the invention of the telescope, developed his own, and made landmark discoveries about the moon, Jupiter, and movement of objects in the sky. After observing four shifting "stars" near Jupiter over a period of time and deducing that they were moons orbiting the planet, he concluded that he had found further evidence that the sun is the center of the solar system. This picture book vividly shows Galileo's drive to improve the telescope as well as his observations, analyses, and conclusions. Pettenati appends a summary of Galileo's life, a note separating truth from fiction in the text, and a source bibliography. Though the accomplished paintings sometimes seem over-the-top in their jovial scenes of Galileo and his fictional dog (both shown grinning or smiling in nearly every illustration), this unusual picture book is a valuable addition to library collections because of its depiction of the scientist at work. Carolyn Phelan  
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It came quickly and was just what I expected.

My children loved this book. The story is endearing and educational. Intriguing facts for adults and children lead to great conversations. I highly recommend this book.

Jeanne Petternati brings Galileo to life. Written for children, it is also a pleasure for any adult who enjoys history. The settings and science in the book are factual, but it is Jeanne's imagination that make this story so real. She has created a wonderful story that educates and delights. The Italian illustrator, Paul Rui, brings life to the author's words and beauty to the reader. Dana Laake  
Author: "The Kid-Friendly ADHD & Autism Cookbook"

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