

PICK ME!

FOR R.5 STRUCTURE AND R.9 MULTIPLE TEXTS!

***The Planet Hunter: The Story behind What Happened to Pluto***  
by Elizabeth Rusch

**R.2 Central Ideas/Themes**

Scientific progress comes from searching and asking questions.

**R.4 Word Choice**

Find and list all the words that suggest a search or a discovery.

**R.5 Structure**

This book explains why Pluto is not considered a planet anymore by telling the true story of the astronomer behind it. The author uses a traditional narrative arc, with a character who wants something, rising tension, a climax and a resolution. Find these parts in the story.

**R.6 Point of View**

The story is told through Mike Brown's point of view. How would it be different if it were told from the point of view of Clyde Tombaugh, the astronomer who discovered Pluto or from the point of view from an astronomer who disagrees with the union's decision?

**R.7 Diverse Media and Formats/Pair with:**

There are many websites dedicated to the solar system. Explore how Pluto is handled and described in them.

**R.9 Multiple Texts/Pair with:**

*When Is a Planet Not a Planet?* by Elaine Scott  
*Pluto's Secret* by Margaret Weitekamp  
Old solar system books that list Pluto as a planet

Primary sources:

\_X\_ used in book - interviews

\_ available at:

Teaching resources available at:

Easy solar system activities available at  
[www.elizabethrusch.com](http://www.elizabethrusch.com) under FOR YOU/FOR TEACHERS

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