TIME FOR KIDS

Blast Off to Space Camp



Hillary Wolfe

Table of Contents

Welcome to Space Camp! 4

What to Expect 6

Tour of the Space Center 9

Simulators 12

Getting Hands-On 17

The Mission 22

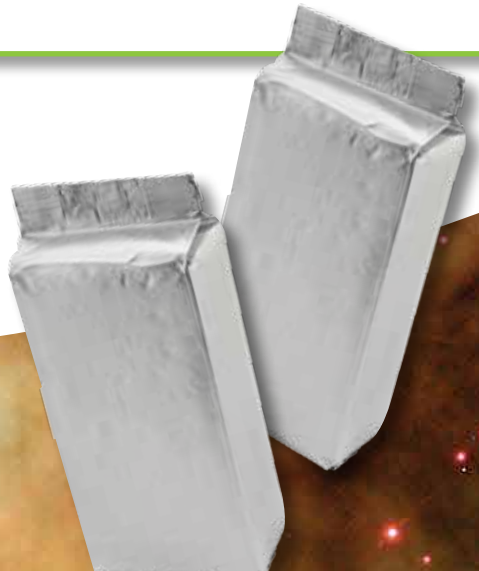
Living in Space 26

Glossary 30

Index 31

About the Author 32

For Review Only



Welcome to Space Camp!

When you think of camp, do you picture campfires and tents? That's one kind of camp. But there is another type of camp—space camp! A scientist named Wernher von Braun (VAIR-ner von BROUN) saw band camps, football camps, and cheerleading camps. He wondered why there weren't science camps. He wanted to give children the chance to see what it would be like to be an **astronaut** (AS-truh-nawt).

For Review Only



◀ Space campers test a rocket.



▲ studying the solar system

U.S. Space and Rocket Center

The U.S. Space and Rocket Center is a space museum located in Huntsville, Alabama. People visit the museum from all over the world to learn about space exploration and see the restored *Saturn V* (SAT-ern FAHYV) moon rocket.



His dream came true in 1982. That is when the first space camp opened in Huntsville, Alabama. Now there are space camps in many cities. Many museums and **planetariums** (plan-i-TAIR-ee-uhmz) offer space camps, too.

Planetariums

A planetarium is a theater that projects images of stars, planets, and other heavenly bodies on a dome-shaped ceiling. Planetariums offer shows to teach about astronomy.



For Review Only

What to Expect

When you arrive, you'll check in and meet the counselors. Each student gets a log book. A log book is a type of journal in which campers can record everything they see and do. Astronauts and pilots keep log books, too.

Space Camp Schedule

7:00 A.M.	Wake up, eat breakfast, and prep for the day.
8:30 A.M.	Shuttle **launch,** landing, and in-orbit training.
10:30 A.M.	Morning debrief
11:00 A.M.	Water exercises
1:00 P.M.	Lunch
1:30 P.M.	Design your own space station.
2:30 P.M.	$\frac{1}{6}$ Gravity Chair training
3:30 P.M.	Manned Maneuvering Unit (MMU) training
4:00 P.M.	Rocket design and launch
5:30 P.M.	Dinner
6:30 P.M.	Learn about tomorrow's mission.
8:00 P.M.	Design a mission patch for your space suit.
9:30 P.M.	Time to get some sleep.





For Review Only

While you're there, you will need to get used to using space lingo. The water fountain is called the *H_2O dispenser*. The bathroom is called *waste management.* The living spaces are *habitats*. When they arrive, students head to their habitats to stow their gear in *sleeping bays*.



from the journal of astronaut Sandra Magus aboard the International Space ▼▶

Sandra Magnus' Journal
A Typical Day

I am going to try to describe a typical day of life on the ISS. Many people have asked this question, I imagine wondering what everyday life is like in such an unusual place and environment. First and foremost I need to point out that our days, all of them, are planned by a huge, world-wide group of people on the ground. The planning for an increment (ours is Expedition 18, for example) actually starts up to a year in advance. The long term planners from every country get together and start mapping out how to fit in all of the work priorities that everyone has. These priorities can range from installing new equipment, getting certain science experiments done, getting maintenance done, spacewalks, robotics and system work that the ground does all of the time. All of the objectives have to fit together so that there is no interference and that crew and ground controller time is used efficiently. This takes a lot of work and a lot of

For Review only

On the first day, campers learn about the missions they will complete at camp. Soon you'll know everything you need to know to be a space camp astronaut!



▲ Campers learn the details of their mission.

For Review Only

Tour of the Space Center

The towering rockets around Rocket Garden look like a forest of shiny white trees reaching high in the air. Some of them are the real rockets that flew in space. Others are models of the original rockets. Lots of planes are on display, too, because astronauts are also pilots. You can see an **F-16 Fighting Falcon** or a **MiG-15.** As a camper, you'll go on scavenger hunts through the park to find the different rockets and planes.



▲ The Rocket Garden needs to be big, because rockets take up a lot of room!

For Review Only