



Global Friendship Through Space Education

VOLUME 2

ISSUE 12

**ASTRO**

JANUARY 16  
2008

# Partner School Science Program Newsletter



**WELCOME TO ASTRO, THE  
PARTNER SCHOOL SCIENCE  
PROGRAM NEWSLETTER!**

**EACH WEEK WHEN YOU CHECK  
GFTSE.ORG, YOU WILL FIND  
COOL PICTURES, FUN FACTS,  
SPACE NEWS, AND MORE....**

**TO GET THE MOST OUT OF  
BEING IN THE PARTNER  
SCHOOL SCIENCE PROGRAM,  
MAKE SURE TO SEND  
MESSAGES TO YOUR E-PAL AS  
OFTEN AS YOU CAN!**

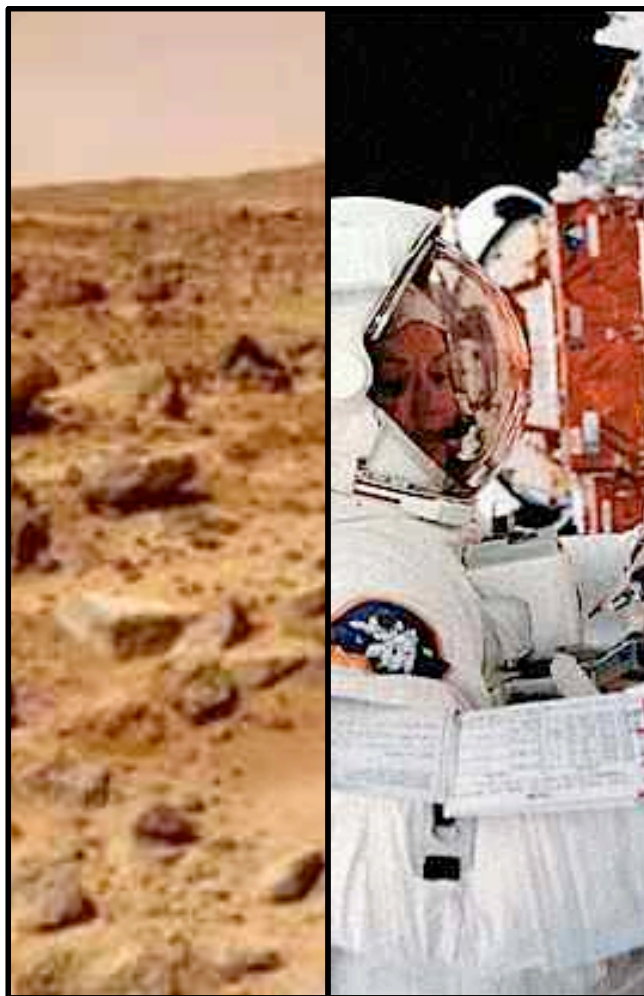
**DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING YOU  
WOULD LIKE TO SEE IN ASTRO?  
IF SO, ASK YOUR TEACHER TO  
SEND AN E-MAIL TO  
TYILDIRIM@GFTSE.ORG WITH  
THE PHOTO, STORY, OR LINK.  
YOU MIGHT JUST SEE IT IN  
NEXT WEEK'S ASTRO!**

**TEACHERS CAN SUBMIT  
PICTURES AND STORIES OF  
THEIR CLASS TO BE INCLUDED  
IN THE PARTNER SCHOOL  
SPOTLIGHT SECTION!**

**IN THIS ISSUE:**

**FLIGHT TRAINING: VOMIT  
COMET**

**EXPLORING VENUS**



# FLIGHT TRAINING: VOMIT COMET



The "Vomit Comet" is a popular nickname for an airplane that has been training astronauts since the early days of space flight (pictured right) on what it's like to feel weightless.

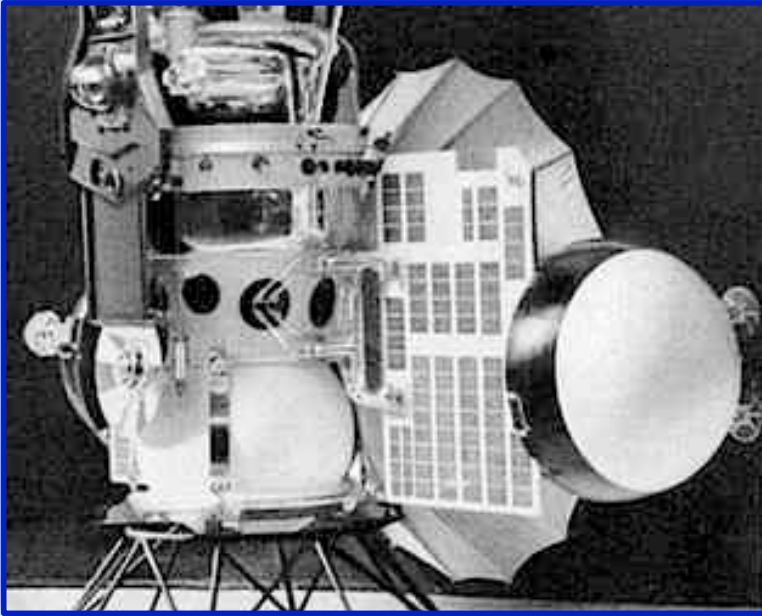
Although NASA has used many planes for this purpose, since 2005 the vomit comet is a McDonnell Douglas C-9 aircraft that flies up and down in parabolic flight, giving riders the feeling of weightlessness.

Besides astronauts, many university students (pictured bottom right) are sent up by NASA to test class experiments in weightlessness.

Start coming up with a great idea for an experiment and in a few years you might be trying it out in the vomit comet!



# EXPLORING VENUS



Venus has been explored by many landers and satellites, mostly from the former Soviet Union and some by the United States. The first thing to land on Venus was a Soviet probe named Venera 3 (pictured left). Unfortunately, it crash landed and was not able to be used. It is still known as the first man made object to visit another planet.



## Venus Facts

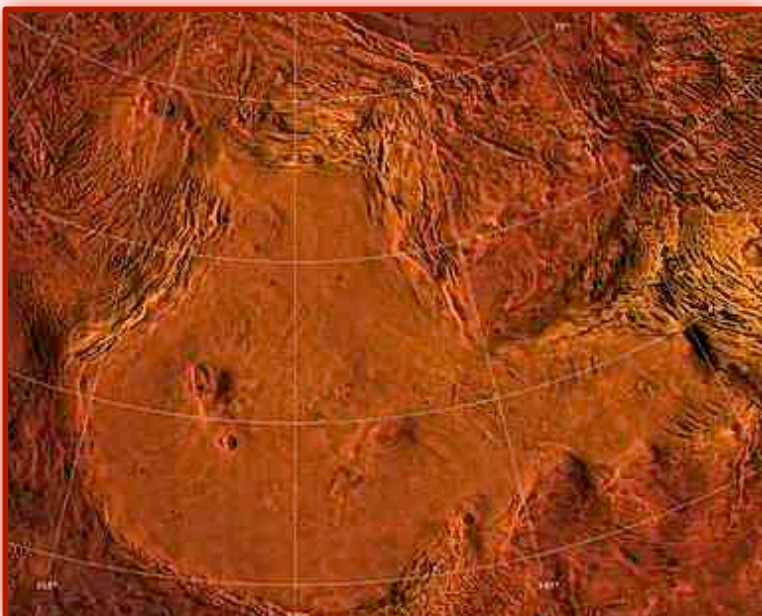
Name: Roman

Days in a year: 225

Moons: 0

97% Carbon Dioxide

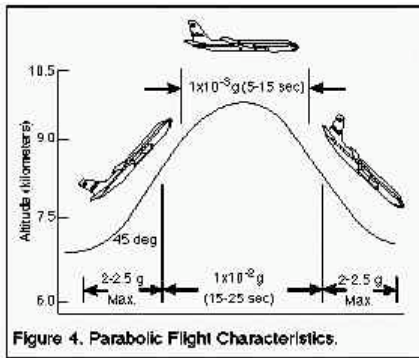
Venus is one of two planets in our solar system that rotates in the opposite direction of Earth.



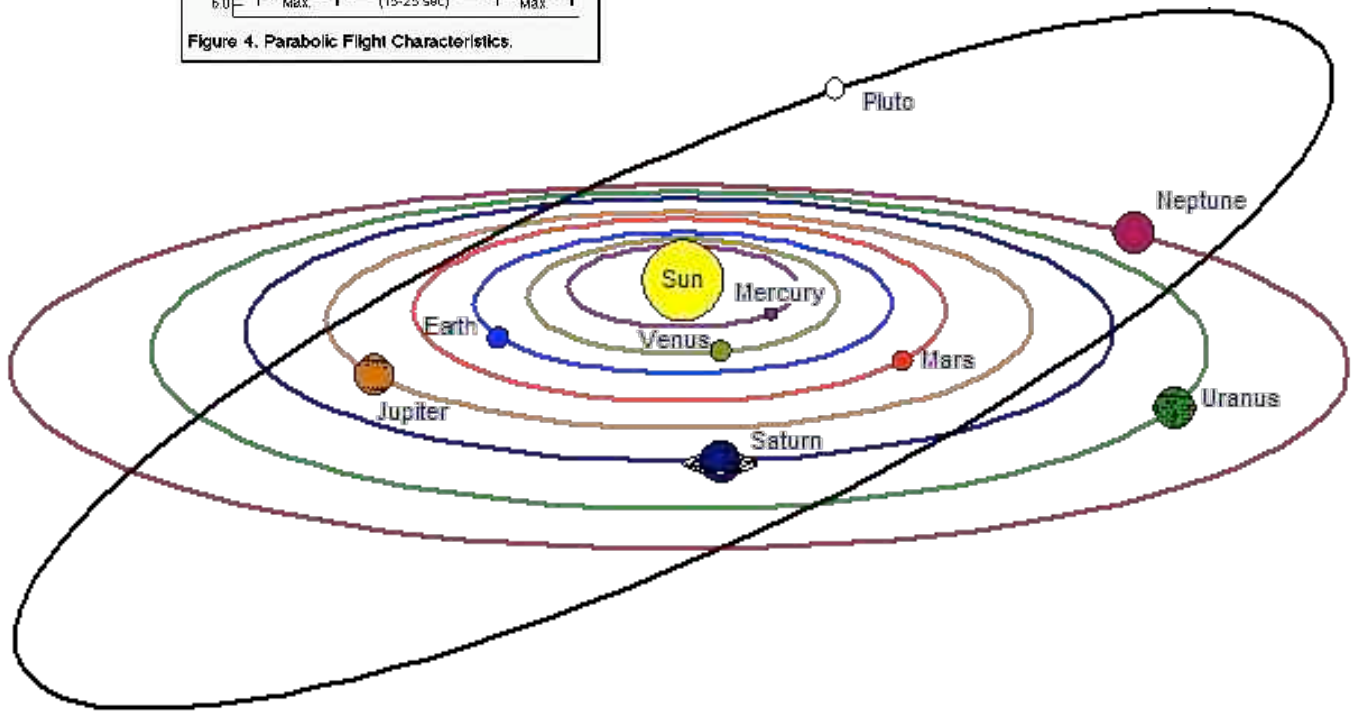
Venera 13 is a famous mission for the exploration of Venus because it was the first time people could see, in color, what the surface of Venus looked like (pictured left). Venera 13 landed on Venus after a 4 month trip and survived for only 127 minutes, nearly 4 times longer than expected! The pressure on Venus is 84 times that of on Earth and the temperature is 457C (855 Fahrenheit)!

# SPACE WORDS:

Parabolic:



to travel in this upside down U shaped path, astronauts are able to feel weightlessness for 25 seconds each 3 minutes.



## Check back next week for more!



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