



Global Friendship Through Space Education

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ASTRO

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Partner School Science Program Newsletter



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

**EACH WEEK WHEN YOU CHECK
YOUR MAILBOX, 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!**

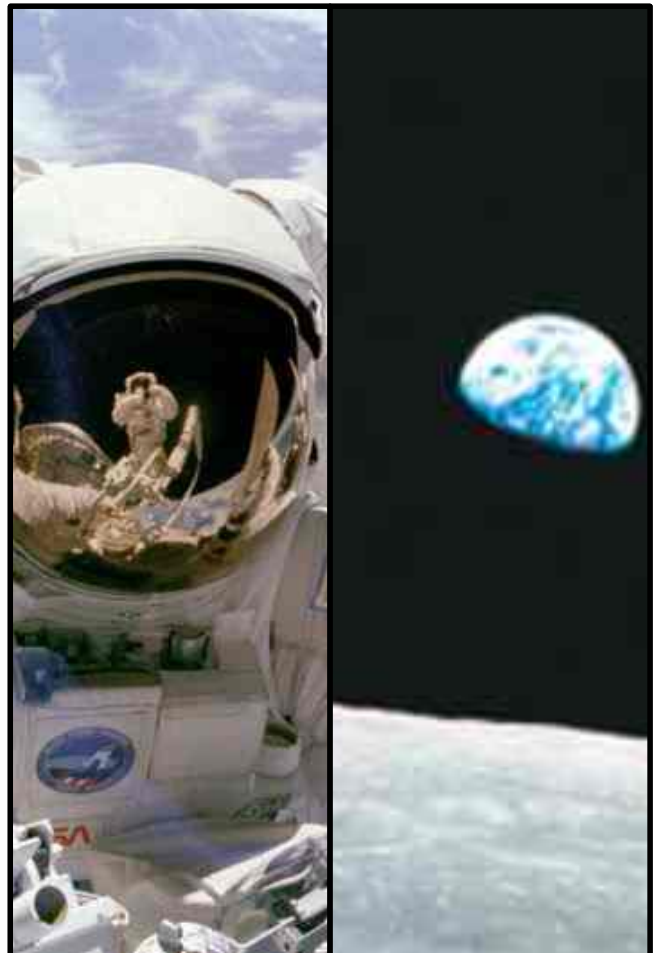
**DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING
YOU WOULD LIKE TO SEE IN
ASTRO? IF SO, ASK YOUR
TEACHER TO SEND AN E-MAIL
TO TYILDIRIM@GFTSE.ORG
WITH THE PHOTO, STORY, OR
LINK. YOU MIGHT JUST SEE IT
IN NEXT WEEK'S ASTRO!**

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

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MISSION**

**SATELLITES: FIRST SPACE
EXPLORERS**



NASA NEWS: ATLANTIS MISSION STS-122



Space Shuttle Atlantis will launch on December 6th, 2007, making it the 121st launch of the Space Shuttle. This mission will include 7 astronauts (pictured left), 5 from the United States, 1 from France, and 1 from Germany. The European Space Agency (ESA) built a module for the International Space Station (ISS) called Columbus. It will be used to give astronauts more room to do experiments in space.



With every mission, NASA and the astronauts on the mission design a mission patch (pictured left) that represents their crew and what they will be doing.



Space Shuttle Atlantis has been sitting on the launch pad at Kennedy Space Center since November 10th. Since then, NASA engineers have been performing pre-flight checks on the Space Shuttle while the astronauts do last minute training and preparation for their mission. The crew of Atlantis will enter the Space Shuttle 2.5 hours before launch and make their way towards the ISS!

SATELLITES: THE FIRST SPACE EXPLORERS



Sputnik 1, pictured left, was the first object made by humans that was launched into space. It was launched on October 4, 1957, by the Soviet Union. This started what is now called the Space Race, a competition between the US and Russia to become the leader in space exploration. Sputnik was a huge achievement for scientists around the world and provided new scientific information about the Earth's atmosphere.

Why send satellites before people into space?

There were many reasons to send satellites into space before people. At the time, it was impossible to send humans into space because the technology needed to do so wasn't invented yet! Another reason that both the US and the Soviet Union wanted to send satellites into space before people was so that they could learn what space was like and make sure that they would be able to safely bring people into space and back to Earth.

Explorer 1, pictured right, was the first satellite sent into space by the United States. It was launched on January 31, 1958. Explorer 1 did many experiments to help make new spacecrafts that could support sending people into space. They put sensors on the outside of the satellite to see how many micrometeorites hit the outside as well as the temperature in and out of the craft.



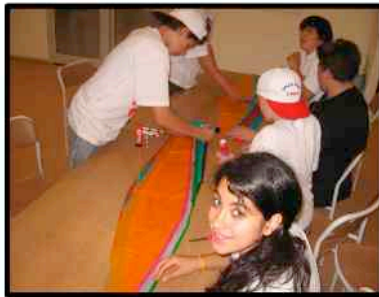
SPACE WORDS:

Micrometeorites- very small pieces of rock that fly through space at over 24,000 mph or 39,000 kph! Spacecrafts have to be built to handle being hit by these everyday!

Sensors- electronic equipment that is able to record information such as temperature, amount of oxygen, speed, and others.

Atmosphere- layers of gas that makes up the upper portion of a planet. The atmosphere of Earth is made up of 78% nitrogen and 20% oxygen.

Check back next week for more!



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