

Mission Patch Videoconference with NASA

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By Sonia Bouchard, Children's World Academy (Quebec, Canada)

Children's World Academy Space Club members took part in a videoconference with NASA Learning Channel lead by Scott Anderson. The students received information on how the NASA mission patches were created and shared their own mission patches with their sister school Sisli Doga College in Istanbul, Turkey and Mr. Anderson. Many of the patches reflected the principles and



philosophy of Global Friendship Through Space Education which is to promote friendship among young people from different countries and cultures through the study of space-related science and technology.

Children's Academy is thankful for this opportunity to learn about space science with knowledgeable educators at NASA and Space Camp Turkey in Izmir.



Kirobo robot takes 'one small step'

By Jullian Rally in Tokyo - The Telegraph

Japan's Kirobo has become the first robot to speak in outer space, showcasing the country's drive to combine technology with cuteness.

The designers of the android- which has been developed in Japan to serve as a companion during extended explorations for space in the future - have released picture of Kirobo floating in the International Space Station.



<http://www.space.com/22655-kirobo-speaks-japanese-talking-robots-first-words-in-space-video.html>

"On August 21, 2013, a robot took on small step toward a brighter future for all" the diminutive android said.

Kirobo which takes its name from the Japanese words from "hope" and "robot" was built by a consortium of companies.

The android will welcome Koichi Wakata, the first Japanese commander of the ISS, when he arrives aboard in November or December.

Standing just over 13 inches tall and weighing in at 23,2lbs, Kirobo will be able to recognize Wakata's facial features and is designed to communicate in Japanese and take photos.

After Wakata has completed his six-month stay aboard the ISS, the robot will stay behind to send messages to schools in Japan and around the world. It will be able to post messages on Twitter and other social media sites, take pictures within the Kibo research module on the ISS, Japan's contribution to the international project, and of the Earth from outer space.



A second android has been developed to serve as a backup and to demonstrate the device's capabilities to audiences on Earth.

In a statement, the organizers said the robot will be designed to "help solve social problems through communication".

"The main objective is that humans can talk to it and feel some sort of closeness to it" the developers said. "That is why we decided to give it a humanoid shape."

Comet Lovejoy Over a Windmill

Image Credit & Copyright: [Jens Hackmann](#)



Lovejoy continues to be an impressive camera comet. Pictured above, [Comet C/2013 R1](#) (Lovejoy) was imaged above the windmill in Saint-Michel-l'Observatoire in southern [France](#) with a six-second exposure. In the foreground is a field of [lavender](#). [Comet Lovejoy](#) should remain available for photo opportunities for northern observers during much of December and during much of the night, although it will be fading as the month progresses and highest in the sky before sunrise. In person, the comet will be [best viewed](#) with binoculars. A giant dirty snowball, [Comet Lovejoy](#) last visited the inner Solar System about 7,000 years ago, around the time that humans developed the wheel.

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