National Aeronautics and Space Administration



# International Space Station Activity Book



>>> For more information, check out the web sites on page 30! <<<

### Note to Teachers and Parents

This activity book is designed to appeal to students in grades K-5. At the discretion of the teacher or parent/guardian, the more advanced pupils at the lower grades may be given the more difficult puzzles to work as a means of keeping them challenged. It is hoped that the activities presented herein will serve not only to convey information about the International Space Station, but about the challenges and rewards inherent in exploring space - both for the benefit of life on Earth, as well as for humankind's eventual expansion to the Moon, Mars, and the wonders which await us beyond. Through completion of fun activities, we hope to excite your students' imaginations, and engender in them an interest in math and science, culminating in their pursuit of space-related careers and/or hobbies. You are heartily invited to join your students as they work their way through the activities in this book — who knows, some of what they learn might just turn out to be new to you as well! Good luck, and have fun!

## Space Symbols and Agency Acronyms

An acronym is a word that is made up of the initials of other words. Fill in the blank spaces to correctly identify the words in the NASA acronym. Use each of the missing letters below only once.

Then select your favorite red and blue crayons or markers and use the color key numbers as a guide to help you re-create the official NASA logo below.

N\_\_IO\_AL\_AE\_\_NA\_T\_CS & S\_\_C\_ AD\_\_\_ST\_AT\_ON Hint: the missing letters are: R, I, N, P, E, M, I, A, T, N, I, U, A, R, I, O



The NASA logo has symbolic meanings in its design. The blue sphere represents a planet; the stars represent space; the red chevron stands for aeronautics and a spacecraft orbits the NASA acronym.

President Dwight D. Eisenhower formed NASA on October 1, 1958 to give the United States a civilian air and space program. How old does that make NASA?

(Answers on page 32)

### The States of NASA

In addition to the District of Columbia, there are 9 states within the United States that are home to one or more NASA facilities and space centers. After reviewing the map below, write each state's name by its correct number in the columns that follow.



### Where is the International Space Station?

Look up in the sky at special times and you will see the Space Station, brighter than the planet Venus, moving quickly overhead as it goes around the Earth. When it's right above you, the Space Station is almost as far away from you as Dallas is from Houston – or Washington, DC is from New York City (about 250 miles), only straight up!

You can find out when the Space Station will be flying over you at: Spot the Station (http://spotthestation.nasa.gov).



### Did You Know...?

Let's learn some fun facts about the International Space Station!



(Answers on page 32)

### **International Space Station Parts**

Let's learn some of the main parts of the International Space Station! Match each numbered part with its correct description:



#### Write the part numbers in the blanks below, next to their descriptions:

- \_\_\_\_\_ Solar arrays (8 pairs) make electricity from sunlight and store it in batteries
- Truss (big beam) holds solar arrays, radiators, and often the big robotic arm
  Radiators get rid of heat from solar arrays and modules to keep things cool
- \_\_\_\_\_ Canada's big **robotic arm** moves people, parts and even spacecraft around
- \_\_\_\_\_ Modules (big soup can shaped parts) are where the astronauts live and work
- \_\_\_\_\_ Soyuz and Progress (Russian spacecraft) bring people, supplies and fuel
- \_\_\_\_\_ ATV (European spacecraft) is designed to bring supplies and fuel
- \_\_\_\_\_ HTV (Japanese spacecraft) is designed to bring supplies and spare parts
- **Dragon, Cygnus** (American spacecraft) designed to bring people, parts, and/or supplies

## **International Space Station Partners**

Let's learn who designed and built the International Space Station! Color the flag of every country that helped build and supply the Space Station, using the color-by-number key below:



2 = blue 3 = yellow 4 = green 5 = black Color Key: 1 = red

# What is it Like to Build an International Space Station?

What were some special challenges faced by the people who designed and built the International Space Station?

Pick a country you've never visited:		
Do people there speak your language?	Yes	No
Do you speak theirs?	Yes	No
New wetend you have to work with a man		

Now pretend you have to work with someone from that country to design a new spaceship...

What will be fun about your new job?



#### What might be hard about your new job?



Letter Shuffle			
How m	How many words can you make from the letters in		
	SPACE	STATION?	No. 2

### Welcome to the Space Station Word Search!

Find the words listed below in the puzzle at the bottom of this page! Then learn all about them on the next page!

(Hint: They can go up/down, left/right, diagonally, forward or backward!)

CYGNUS	NASA	SOLAR ARRAY
DESTINY	PROGRESS	SOYUZ
DRAGON	RADIATOR	SPACE SHUTTLE
KIBO	RESEARCH	TRUSS
MODULE	SCIENCE	ZVEZDA
	CYGNUS DESTINY DRAGON KIBO MODULE	CYGNUSNASADESTINYPROGRESSDRAGONRADIATORKIBORESEARCHMODULESCIENCE



(Answers on page 33)

### How Many Words Were You Able to Find?

#### Check your solution against the answer key, then read about what they mean in the special language of life on the Station!

**AIRLOCK** - The special module that astronauts use to enter and leave the Space Station for spacewalks

ASTRONAUT - The American word for space traveler

**CANADA ARM** - Canada's giant robotic arm, called 'Canadarm2' for short (the rst Canadarm ew on the Shuttle)

**COLUMBUS** - Name given to Europe's laboratory module, in honor of Christopher Columbus

CYGNUS - An American spaceship designed to bring supplies to the Space Station

COSMONAUT - The Russian word for space traveler

**DESTINY** - Name given to America's laboratory module, which also controls most of Station's functions

**DRAGON** - The rst American spaceship to visit Station since the Space Shuttle was retired; designed to bring people and supplies

KIBO - Name given to Japan's laboratory module, it means 'hope' in Japanese

**MODULE** - Any of several special 'rooms' on Station where people can live and work without having to wear a space suit

**NASA** - The short form of 'National Aeronautics and Space Administration' (America's space agency)

**PROGRESS** - Name given to the Russian spaceship that brings supplies and fuel to the Space Station

**RADIATOR** - Special parts designed to unfold and release heat into the coldness of space so Station doesn't overheat

**RESEARCH** - Collecting data and guring out what it means, as a way of trying to understand better how things work

**SCIENCE** - Observing, studying, and experimenting to learn about how the universe and everything in it works

**SOLAR ARRAY** - Special parts that unfold and are designed to use the sun's energy to make electricity to power Station

**SOYUZ** - Russian for 'union'; it is the name of Russia's spaceship that carries people to the Station and back again

**SPACE SHUTTLE** - American spaceship, now retired, used to launch most of the Station's pieces, plus people and supplies

**TRUSS** - The giant beam which connects the solar arrays and radiators to the rest of the Space Station

**ZVEZDA** - Russian for 'star'; name given to the module that controls the Russian part of the Space Station

### Let's do the Space Station Crossword Puzzle!

Use the words in the Word Bank below to solve the clues and complete the puzzle! Page 10 has information that can help!



#### Word Bank

(Hint: Cross words off the list below as you use them in the puzzle above)

AIRLOCK	EXPLORATION
ARRAY	KIBO
ASTRONAUT	LABORATORY
AUTOMATED	MICROGRAVITY
CANADA	PROGRESS
COLUMBUS	RADIATOR
COSMONAUT	RESEARCH
CUPOLA	SOYUZ
CYGNUS	TRUSS
DESTINY	ZARYA
DRAGON	ZVEZDA

#### Across

- 1. Country that makes the giant robotic arm for the Space Station
- 5. Name of Japanese module; it means 'hope'
- What the 'X' stands for in JAXA (hint: it stands for the rst sound of the word, not the letter it begins with)
- 8. The part of the Station that turns sunlight into electricity
- 10. The name of the Russian cargo spaceship
- 12. The rst American spaceship to visit the Space Station since the Shuttle was retired
- 15. Place where experiments are conducted
- 16. Special module astronauts use to exit and enter the Station for spacewalks
- 18. Russian word for space traveler
- Russian spacecraft that takes astronauts to Station and brings them back again; it means 'union'
- 21. Name of the Russian module that controls the Russian part of Station; it means 'star'

#### Down

- 2. American word for space traveler
- 3. Nearly gravity-free environment in which experiments are conducted on the Station
- The rst piece of the Station launched into orbit; it means 'dawn' in Russian
- 6. The name given to the American laboratory
- 9. Experiments conducted on Station to learn about life, the Earth, and the universe
- The part of the Station that releases heat to the coldness of space so Station doesn't get too hot
- 13. What the 'A' stands for in the name of the European cargo spaceship
- 14. The name given to the European laboratory
- 17. The module with special windows for looking at the Earth and out into space
- This American spacecraft delivers only cargo

   not astronauts to Station
- 19. Giant beam that connects the solar arrays and radiators to the rest of Station

(Solution on page 33)

# Connect the Dots to Draw a Space Station Transport Vehicle!

This type of spaceship is used to carry people, supplies, and/or spare parts to the Space Station, and return people and experiment results back to Earth. The United States has developed two vehicles, Dragon and Cygnus, which join several similar vehicles provided by Russia, Japan, and Europe.



Are you ready for a more challenging puzzle? Go to the next page to try drawing the International Space Station!

(Solution on page 34)

## Draw the International Space Station!

Connect the dots in order of their numbers and see your very own Space Station take shape! Then color it any way you like!



Bonus challenge: Sketch in and color the Earth! Over which continent or ocean is your Space Station flying?





(Solution on page 34)

# What's Different?

Astronauts need to have a keen eye for details when doing experiments or solving problems on the Space Station.

Find all thirteen differences between these pictures!

Circle everything on B that's different from A:



### Packing for a Stay Aboard the International Space Station!

Astronaut Yuko is deciding what to take into space. Weight is very important in space travel. Food, water, personal items, and other supplies are needed for the long trip, and their weight all counts against the total weight that the transport spacecraft is able to take up to the Space Station. Yuko can only take up to ten pounds (lb) of personal items with her. Her case weighs two pounds empty, and cannot weigh more than 10 pounds when filled. Help Yuko choose what to take along. Circle the case, and each object you think she should pack in it. Remember to add up the weight as you go, so Yuko doesn't try to pack too much! Multiple solutions are possible!



Now think of what items not already shown here that you would like to take with you if you were given the chance to live and work on the Space Station. How heavy are they? Would you be able to take them with you? What might you have to leave behind?

### Space Sudoku!

After a hard day's work, astronauts have time to exercise and relax with some of their favorite activities. Relax with a Sudoku puzzle! Remember, use the numbers 1, 2, 3, and 4 only once each in each row and once in each column.



(Solution on page 35)

### Returning to Earth!

Can you find a path for the Dragon supply spaceship to take in order to bring the results of the latest experiments back to Earth?



Are you ready to take on a bigger challenge? Go to the next page and help a crew member aboard the Station get her work done!

(Solution on page 35)

### Finding One's Way Around on the Space Station!

There are many shelves, or 'racks,' in the Destiny Lab on the Space Station. They can be used to hold experiments and research projects. Astronaut Ruby needs to find her way through all of the racks in the Destiny Lab so she can do her research at the rack at the end of the maze. Can you show her how to get to her experiment's rack?



Are you ready to tackle an even bigger challenge? Go to the next page and help a crew member aboard the Space Station get back inside after a space walk!

(Solution on page 36)

### a-MAZE-ing Spacewalks!



(Solution on page 36)

### Space Brain Teasers

Each alphabet letter puzzle below represents a well-known, space-related word or phrase... see if you can figure out what they say! Write each word or phrase on the line provided in its box. Three puzzles have visual clues to help you!



(Answers on page 36)

### **Space Station News Word Fun!**

Even astronauts goof around sometimes and have fun while on the Space Station. Try this with a friend or several friends: Call out each part of speech (noun, verb, and so on) as it appears in the unfinished news story below, then write the first answer that you hear back in its blank space. Do this until all the blank spaces have been filled in, then read the news story aloud!

NASA is launching a new spacecraft, nicknamed 'The Wild

NOUN	,' to the Spa	ce Station.	This space	cecraft wi	ll carry
lots of	and _	PLURAL NOUN	for Sta	tion's crev	w to eat,
and some	for th	em to wear	. The spac	cecraft wil	l launch
on the new '	NOUN	rocket, the	most	DJECTIVE	vehicle
ever built by the	NOUN OR ADJECTI	Aerospac	e Compa	ny, locate	d in the
	VERB NOU	Thi	s rocket h	as revolut	ionary
new engines that	t run on ordir	hary liquid $_{-}$	NOUN	and	
ADJECTIVE	PLURAL NOUN	. The first a	astronauts	to fly in t	his
spacecraft,	AME OF FRIEND		F ANOTHER FR	, seem	excited
about their missi	on, saying th	e most cha	llenging th	ning about	t it will
be when they ha	ve to	VERB	the	NOUN	,
before their spac	ewalk to fix s	Station's ag	ing	NOUN	•

### Mental Math Mania!

Astronauts, engineers, scientists and budget analysts at NASA need to know their numbers. Test your skills with this math square.

Instructions:

- 1. Fill in the missing numbers to complete the math square.
- 2. Use the numbers 1 through 9 to complete the equations.
- 3. Each number is used only once.
- 4. Each row is a math equation. So is each column.
- 5. Three numbers are done for you.



Hint: Remember that multiplication and division are performed before addition and subtraction.

(Solution on page 36)

### Is it an Insect?

Many onboard experiments involve insects. Can you tell an insect apart from other living creatures? Give it a try! Circle YES or NO under each picture to show whether or not you think it is an insect.



YES NO



YES NO



YES NO



YES NO



YES NO



YES NO



Hint: Insects have three body segments, three pairs of legs (six legs total), two antennae, an external shell-like skeleton rather than an internal skeleton, and compound eyes made up of dozens to hundreds of little eyes!

# Fruit Fly Observations

Here's your chance to be a NASA scientist! Below is half of a simple fruit fly blueprint. Your mission is to complete the other half of the image by drawing the mirror of the image present on the grid.





### **Mission Patch Meanings**

Missions, or trips to the Space Station, usually have a patch designed for them that can be worn on shirts, hats, etc., to show the pride that the people involved with them feel in the important work they are doing to improve life on Earth and make it possible to explore space. Check out the sample mission patch below and the meaning of its parts, then think of a mission you would like to work on, choose a name for your mission, and design your very own mission patch for it!

> Mission name: Fruit Fly Lab 01



Mission patch parts or symbols:





Meaning of patch symbols:

Earth, as seen from orbit

The DNA molecule, buildingblock for all known life forms

The mission acronym (first letter of each word in its name)

The fruit fly – the focus of the mission's experiments

The Space Station, where fruit fly experiments will be done

	Your mission's name:
	What the symbols in your patch mean:
Draw your mission's patch here – it can be any shape you like!	

# Let's Learn Some Parts of a Rocket!

We need a new way to bring people, experiments, food, clothing, and spare parts to the Space Station now that the Shuttle has been retired. Before one can design a replacement rocket, one has to know its parts – want to learn? On the diagram below, draw a line from the parts list to the corresponding parts on the rocket!



Are you ready for a bigger challenge? Go to the next page to try your hand at designing America's next rocket to take food and supplies to the Space Station!

(Answers on page 38)

### Design the Next Rocket to Take Astronauts to the International Space Station!

Mix and match the pieces below to design your rocket. Cut out your pieces and paste them together in the picture-box at the right, or simply draw them there. Then, when you've finished building it, name and color your design!



## Supplying the Space Station

Several different spacecraft, designed and flown by various nations that are part of the international partnership that makes the Space Station possible, make regular visits to the Space Station, delivering astronauts, spare parts, and critical supplies like food, water, and fuel. Some, like Russia's Progress and Soyuz, have been in service many years. Others, like Japan's H-2B Transfer Vehicle (HTV) and Europe's Automated Transfer Vehicle (ATV), were developed especially for the Space Station. Others still, like the United States's Dragon and Cygnus, are brand new. One, the Space Shuttle, has been retired after serving for many years as the Station's main construction and supply vehicle.

Unscramble the mixed up letters below to identify the many spacecraft that have kept the Space Station supplied, then do the same for the names of the nations or group of nations that provided them. Lastly, draw lines to connect each spacecraft to its provider!

(Hint: Some providers have produced more than one spacecraft!)

5	Spacecraft
UGCYSN	
SEGRROSP	
SSCAPULTETHE	
2HABTHECELFSVRIRNE	_ <b>-</b>
NOGRDA	
YOZSU	
VCIAALTEFSRHUTEENMOTEADR	

#### **Providers**

USRSAI	
TTANDIUEESTS	 
ORUEEP	
AAJNP	

(Answers on page 38)

# Fun Facts

Here are some more things about our International Space Station you might not have known... tell your friends! Amaze your family!

#### Did you know...

- Space Station's living space is about the size of a 6-bedroom house
- Weightless Station astronauts sleep in any direction with no bed, just a sleeping bag strapped to a wall so they don't float around
- The Station's weightless environment means toilets have to be specially designed to work like vacuum cleaners and suck wastes in, recycle most of the water, and seal the rest in plastic bags
- Weightlessness also makes showering a challenge water droplets can float anywhere and really damage computers, machines, and so on – so astronauts rub water and soap on and sponge it off again
- There are about 8 miles of wiring in the Station's electrical system
- Over 100,000 people around the world worked together to make the Space Station possible
- Astronauts have to exercise hard for at least 2 hours every day to keep their muscles and bones from getting too soft, which is what they would otherwise do without having gravity to work against
- Over 50 computers keep the Station's systems working
- Astronauts, when they're enjoying what little free time they get, often spend it reading, listening to music, emailing or otherwise keeping in touch with their families and friends on Earth, or taking pictures of Earth and space out the windows
- Research on Station continues to make discoveries important to us here on Earth including, recently, a possible vaccine for salmonella, a food-poisoning illness that is especially dangerous to children





#### Want to Learn More? Check out some of these awesome websites!



#### For Space Station viewing times (and where to look to see it) go to:

http://space ight.nasa.gov/realdata/sightings/index.html

#### To learn more about research being done on the Space Station, try:

http://www.nasa.gov/mission\_pages/station/research/index.html http://www.nasa.gov/mission\_pages/station/research/ops/research\_student.html

#### Space agencies' websites (most of these are especially for kids!):

#### NASA (United States):

http://kids.earth.nasa.gov/ http://www.nasa.gov/audience/forkids/kidsclub/ ash/index.html http://quest.nasa.gov/index.html http://www.nasa.gov/audience/forstudents/index.html http://solarsystem.nasa.gov/kids/index.cfm http://spaceplace.nasa.gov///redirected/

#### CSA (Canada):

http://www.asc-csa.gc.ca/eng/iss/default.asp

#### ESA (Europe):

http://www.esa.int/esaKIDSen/SEMZXJWJD1E\_LifeinSpace\_0.html

#### JAXA (Japan):

http://iss.jaxa.jp/kids/en/index.html

#### ROSCOSMOS (Russia):

http://www.en.federalspace.ru/

Example

We hope you had fun learning about the amazing International Space Station and that you'll visit us at NASA online real soon! Example rocket 2 (p. 27)



Answer Key







# Space Symbols and Agency Acronyms

October 1, 2018 marks NASA's 60th anniversary!

#### The States of NASA

- 1) California
- 2) Texas
- 3) Mississippi
- 4) Alabama
- 5) Florida
- 6) Ohio
- 7) Virginia
- 8) Maryland
- 9) Louisiana
- Bonus: District of Columbia

#### Did You Know...?



Note: All four answers to the last question are true!

#### **International Space Station Parts**

- <u>6</u> Solar arrays (8 pairs) make electricity from sunlight and store it in batteries
- \_\_\_\_ Truss (big beam) holds solar arrays, radiators, and often the big robotic arm
- **2** Radiators get rid of heat from solar arrays and modules to keep things cool
- \_\_\_\_ Canada's big **robotic arm** moves people, parts and even spacecraft around
- **8** Modules (big soup can shaped parts) are where the astronauts live and work
- <u>3</u> Soyuz and Progress (Russian spacecraft) bring people, supplies and fuel
- 5\_ ATV (European spacecraft) is designed to bring supplies and fuel
- \_\_\_\_ HTV (Japanese spacecraft) is designed to bring supplies and spare parts
- \_\_\_\_ Dragon, Cygnus (American spacecraft); designed to bring people, parts, and/or supplies



#### Letter Shuffle

These are some sample words you could make from the letters in "SPACE STATION." How many more were you able to find?

act	nose
past	note
cat	pan
noise	snaps
pin	toe
pane	ants
cane	ices
tap	nice
nap	pain
nest	pants
	act past cat noise pin pane cane tap nap nest

Welcome to the Space Station Word Search!





Let's do the Space Station Crossword Puzzle!





Draw the International Space Station!



#### What's Different?



- 1. Docking port moved to Kibo
- 2. Kibo's storage module moved to the Node
- 3. Japanese robotic arm moved to the Columbus module
- 4. Canadarm2 moved to the truss
- 5. Solar array got shorter
- 6. Truss got shorter
- 7. Solar array got skinnier
- 8. Radiator is missing
- 9. Radiator rotated to be edge-on
- 10. Radiator is on backwards
- 11. Airlock moved to end of truss
- 12. Service Module's solar array 'wings' got shorter
- 13. Progress supply ship is gone

#### Space Sudoku!



#### **Returning to Earth!**











#### Is it an Insect?







#### Supplying the Space Station

Spacecraft	
UGCYSN SEGRROSP SSCAPULTETHE 2HABTHECELFSVRIRNE NOGRDA YOZSU VCIAALTEFSRHUTEENMOTEADR	CYGNUS ← PROGRESS ← SPACE SHUTTLE ← H-2B TRANSFER VEHICLE ← DRAGON ← SOYUZ ← AUTOMATED TRANSFER VEHICLE ←
Providers USRSAI TTANDIUEESTS ORUEEP AAJNP	RUSSIA UNITED STATES EUROPE JAPAN



#### Back Cover

Here's the solution to back cover puzzle – and then some! Did you nd the Space Station? As a secret bonus, the puzzle features another Earth neighbor – Mars! If while searching for the Space Station you noticed that red blob & wondered about it, give yourself an extra pat on the back – noticing what you weren't looking for is how discoveries are made!



Some nights the Moon and stars seem so big and close that it feels like you could almost reach out and touch them, don't they? Now there's a new star in the sky – the Space Station – and it will help us reach the Moon, Mars, and maybe even the stars someday! Can you find it in the picture below? Look carefully!



(Answer on page 39)