

# 101 Ways To Celebrate Space Day<sup>SM</sup>



1. Design and build a rover to explore other planets or moons.
2. Pretend you are a reporter. Write a story about an important event in space exploration history.
3. Create a picture timeline of spacecraft from the Apollo missions to NASA's futuristic Morphing Wing aircraft.
4. List the many jobs and careers that were created by the space program.
5. Follow Stardust and other missions and discover why we are studying comets.
6. Invite an astronomer to talk to your class about distant galaxies.
7. Write an essay about what planet you would like to explore.
8. Imagine you are an astronaut and you have just completed an adventurous flight. Describe the flight to television reporters.
9. Host a space career day at your school.
10. Look for the North Star. Find out why it is used for navigation.



Dr. Sally Ride and Senator John Glenn greet "Stellar" *Design Challenges* team members.

11. Learn how scientists such as Copernicus first described the solar system.
12. Find out how Galileo's first telescope worked.
13. Go to <http://spaceplace.jpl.nasa.gov> and learn how to make Star Finders, Galactic Mobiles and other "Spacey Things."
14. Imagine you are exploring the solar system. Keep a journal of what you discover along the way.
15. Write down as many "space spinoffs" as you can, and count how many you have used.
16. See what the latest Mars rovers are discovering on the Red Planet at <http://mars.jpl.nasa.gov/>
17. Find out how many new planetary systems have been discovered outside of our own.

18. Turn your classroom into a planetarium and research the heavens.
19. Identify and point out the Big Dipper, the Little Dipper, Orion's Belt and other constellations.
20. Host an outdoor "star party" and serve astronaut ice cream.
21. Make a mini-telescope using black film canisters. Use it to gaze at the stars and tell others what you see.
22. Look for the latest pictures from the Hubble Space Telescope at [www.stsci.edu/hst](http://www.stsci.edu/hst)





Space enthusiasts stand in front of a student built space shuttle mockup, Young Astronaut Council, Norwalk, Connecticut.

23. Make models of craters or volcanoes from other planets.
24. Visit [www.nasa.gov](http://www.nasa.gov) for information on upcoming space missions and find out what people do on the ground to support a mission.
25. Increase your space literacy by visiting the Challenger Center for Space Science Education Web site at [www.challenger.org](http://www.challenger.org).
26. Take a virtual tour of the International Space Station (ISS) and find out when the ISS will pass over your city at <http://spaceflight.nasa.gov/realdata/sightings/index.html>.
27. Research life on the ISS, how long crews stay on it, and why.
28. Name the first person in space and research his mission.

29. Find out the name of the astronauts' band and how many astronauts are musicians!

30. Follow the progress of the spacecraft Cassini on its seven-year journey to Saturn. Visit: <http://saturn.jpl.nasa.gov/cassini>.

31. Go to the Mission Fun section of [www.spaceday.org](http://www.spaceday.org) to play the newest games.

32. Name the U.S. astronaut who has flown the most missions.

33. Research myths involving Athena, Mars, Apollo, Atlas, Titan and Mercury.

34. Research where meteorites have struck the earth in the last five years.

35. Find out how long it will take to travel to different planets and why.

36. Research how many astronauts there are in Canada, Europe, Russia, Japan and the U.S.

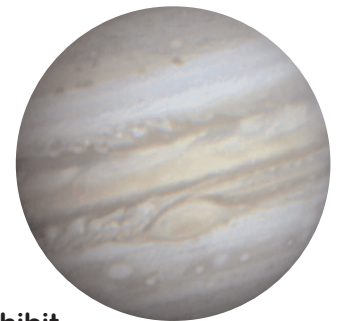
37. Ask a librarian to help you find books about space exploration.



38. Find out why Robert H. Goddard is known as "the father of modern rocketry."

39. Find out about the traveling exhibit, "SPACE: A Journey to Our Future" at [www.spaceevent.com](http://www.spaceevent.com).

40. Contact your local library and ask them to do a special exhibit on space-related books.

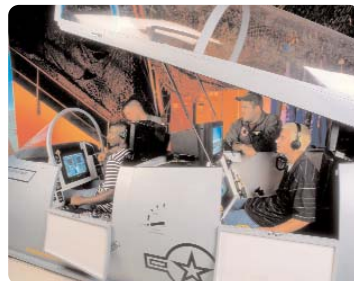


41. Visit your local planetarium and learn about your universe.

42. Attend a "family science night" at your local science center with your parents.

43. Visit your local air and space museum to find out more about the history of flight and adventures in space.

44. Find out about Space Camp for students and adults.

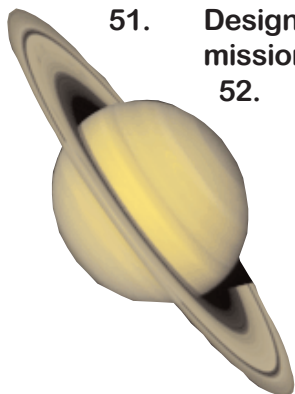


Students enjoying activities at Space Camp and Aviation Challenge Camp.



45. Invite a local weather personality to speak about weather satellites.
46. Plan a family "Night with the Stars" and invite a local astronomer to point out constellations/stars.
47. Have a school wide space-related science fair.
48. Visit NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory Web site: [www.jpl.nasa.gov](http://www.jpl.nasa.gov) for information about the Solar System Ambassadors and ask one of them to speak at your school.
49. Design custom license plates for interplanetary space vehicles.

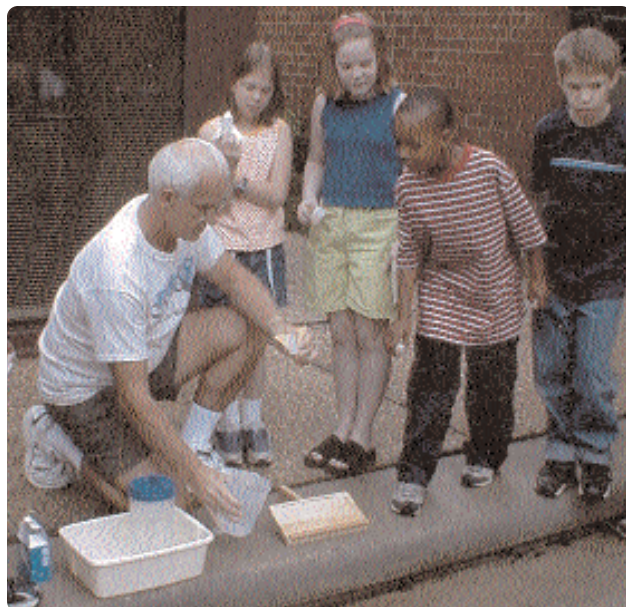
50. Have a space food taste-testing party.
51. Design a mission patch for a future NASA mission.



52. Have a costume party with students dressed as aliens, astronauts, planets, airplanes or space vehicles.

53. Write a speech for your arrival on another planet.
54. Read a book about space and write a report about what you learned.
55. Pick a planet and create a travel brochure for future space travelers/tourists.
56. Write a Space Day poem or song that celebrates space exploration.
57. Write a short story that begins, "Last night I dreamed I was an astronaut..."

58. Host a "space lunch."
59. Create your own "Space News" by researching and writing new stories each week.
60. Research and design a new kind of space suit.
61. Make a list of the 10 essential things you would take on a trip to another planet.
62. Complete the following sentence, "If I could be on board a future mission into space, I would..."
63. Put together your own "time capsule" to be opened in 20 years.
64. Write an essay about why exploring the universe is important to mankind.
65. Listen to a tape of Orson Welles' War of the Worlds radio broadcast and discuss why it caused a panic.
66. Design and build a space station.
67. Build a model of the space shuttle, and then use a launch script with sound effects and a computer to simulate a launch from the Kennedy Space Center.
68. Calculate the speed of light in kilometers per day.
69. Simulate life in space. Try putting together nuts and bolts while wearing large gloves.
70. Try to determine the number of satellites orbiting Earth.
71. Create a scale model of our solar system.
72. Determine your weight on different planets.



Tony Hays, Design Engineer at Lockheed Martin, Marietta, Georgia, conducts a science experiment at Spalding Drive Elementary School.



Dominion Trail Elementary students, Ashburn, Virginia, in the cockpit of a mock shuttle.

73. Compare similarities and differences between pioneers in space and earthbound explorers - Marco Polo, Christopher Columbus, Lewis and Clark and Jacques Cousteau.
74. Look up the definitions of: black hole, white dwarf, quasar, supernova and other space related terminology.
75. Name two household items and two medical advances whose origins can be traced to the space program.
76. Research all the moons of Jupiter.
77. Research which volcano is the tallest in the solar system.
78. Ask five older people to tell about where they were the day the U.S. first landed on the Moon and what was exciting to them. Write a report and share with others.
79. Pick a planet and name all the past, present and proposed missions to that planet.
80. Think about gravity and how it affects our lives.
81. Find out about solar flares and how they affect our communications and electricity.



Ben Laplante, Canadian Aerospace Educator, presents to students at Lisbon Elementary, Lisbon, Maine.



Students engaged in a science project at Millennium Middle School, Sanford, Florida.

82. Name the U.S. astronaut who holds the record for the most time in space on a single mission.
83. Go for a swim and simulate weightlessness.
84. Name as many astronauts as you can and missions they flew.
85. Design and build paper gliders and have a contest to measure their flight distance.
86. Hold a Space Trivia contest.
87. Hold a Spelling Bee with words related to aviation, aerospace and astronomy.
88. Conduct a Space Day essay contest about the future of spaceflight and submit the winning essays to your local paper.
89. Conduct a Space Art contest.
90. Have a read-a-thon with books relating to aviation, space and space exploration.

91. Conduct a solar system quiz and name as many planetary moons as you can.
92. Watch a movie about space, space flight or aviation.
93. Each year, ask your principal, school board, city council or state representative to officially declare Space Day on the first Thursday in May.
94. Sign up for the Student Signatures in Space® program at [www.spaceday.org](http://www.spaceday.org).
95. Post your Space Day event in the "News/Events" section of [www.spaceday.org](http://www.spaceday.org).
96. Observe a moment of silence for those who have sacrificed their lives in the cause of exploring our universe.
97. Host a Space Day Fun Run in your community.
98. Find out who discovered the solar systems' asteroid belt and where it is located. Then draw a map of it and the planets around it.
99. Compare the weather on Earth to the weather on other planets such as Jupiter.
100. Make a space calendar and list one space-related event for every week of the year.
101. Celebrate Space Day on the first Thursday in May!



Anna McGowan, NASA Langley, talks with Joie Chen of CBS News, about the future of flight during the 2003 Cyber Space Day Webcast.