



# NASAeducation

EXPLORING THE POSSIBILITIES:

## CAREERS IN AEROSPACE

There is excitement in the air as NASA prepares to launch the Space Shuttle Atlantis to resume assembly of the International Space Station. NASA's Office of Education is using that excitement to develop innovative activities and events that will engage and educate the public as well as inspire the next generation of explorers and innovators.

**Engaging Girls** — Using the Agency's unique mission, material, people, and facilities, NASA will provide opportunities to Girl Scouts and troop leaders across the country. Activities are designed to expose them to NASA's mission, educational events, materials, aerospace careers, as well as interactive science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) curricula. During visits to NASA's Field Centers, participants will have opportunities to earn merit badges.

**Attracting the Community** — To sustain interest and engage female students in STEM education, NASA has teamed with AOL to host a three-hour radio show/webcast featuring prominent Agency women and the Girl Scouts of America. AOL's service for kids, KOL™ (Kids Online), will host the event with Radio KOL DJ Rick Adams as emcee. Students will be able to listen, watch, and learn more about the diverse range of career opportunities related to NASA's mission. Participants include former NASA astronaut Sally Ride, NASA Space Shuttle manager Stephanie Stilson, NASA planetary geologist Adriana Ocampo, and the Vice President of the Girl Scouts of America, Dr. Harriet S. Mosatche. To participate on line at 3:00 p.m. EDT on August 28, 2006, visit: <http://www.radiokol.com>.

**Reaching the Public** — Across North America, millions of eyes will turn skyward to gaze at billions of stars. Students in U.S. classrooms and children at Canadian informal venues will participate in Star Count. Star Count is a collaborative education effort between NASA and the Canadian Space Agency to turn students into future astronomers and provide teachers with related classroom resources. The project is part of an international scientific study to investigate the visual quality of the nighttime sky. Canadian astronaut Steven MacLean will lead the activity during the STS-115 mission. He will create a database for students to compare their findings. To become a star watcher, visit: <http://www.nasa.gov/education>.

**Interacting through the Web** — NASA is unveiling several new interactive educational resources for the Web based on human space flight, exploration, and STS-115. These exciting and informational online activities are available for students and the public by visiting, <http://www.nasa.gov/education>.

### Highlighted Web Activities:

#### STS-115: Time to Build Again

##### Dreaming of Flying

*As a child, Heidemarie Stefanyszyn-Piper wanted to fly. As a member of the STS-115 crew, she'll fly higher than she dreamed.*

##### Counting the Stars

*Give your students a NASA mission and get them excited about science.*

#### STS-115 Memory Game

*Match the pictures and learn about the STS-115 crew.*



Inspire, Engage, Educate, Employ  
the next generation of explorers



## Exploring New Frontiers

America is charting a new course into the cosmos: to the moon, Mars, and beyond. For the past 50 years, NASA's journeys into air and space have enhanced humankind's understanding of the Universe, advanced technology breakthroughs, increased air travel safety and security, and expanded the frontiers of scientific research. These accomplishments share a common root:

### education

Future generations and missions depend on the inspiration of our youngest and brightest students, and NASA can help ignite that yearning in our children to explore the Universe. The power in the intertwining of NASA and education lies in the unique embrace between the space program and our imaginations.

#### About NASA Education

NASA has a new strategic education plan. Through a portfolio of investments, NASA will contribute to the development of the STEM workforce in disciplines needed to achieve the Agency's strategic goals.

This portfolio includes five program areas:

- higher education,
- minority university research and education,
- elementary and secondary education,
- informal education, and
- education technology and products.

NASA will also attract and retain students in STEM disciplines through a progression of educational opportunities for students, teachers, and faculty. NASA intends to build strategic partnerships and linkages between STEM formal and informal education providers in order to promote awareness of NASA's mission.

#### NASA Education and Our Future Workforce

Previous experience shows exciting and compelling NASA missions are critical to inspiring the next generation of explorers and leaders. NASA's Office of Education is in the forefront of the Agency's efforts to continue motivating students to pursue careers in STEM. Through partnerships with NASA Mission Directorates, other federal agencies, private industry, and scientific research and education organizations, we are applying NASA's unique people, content, facilities, and education initiatives and resources in order to spark the interest of students.

#### For More Information

Visit [www.nasa.gov/education](http://www.nasa.gov/education). To learn more about the NASA Education Framework, visit <http://education.nasa.gov/about/strategy/index.html>.

