

NAME _____ CLASS _____ DATE _____



"Careers in Space" Video Activity

OBJECTIVE: To become familiar with types of careers in space and to make an educational plan that could lead to such a career.

MATERIALS:

- 10 minute video titled "**Careers in Space**" (produced by the Johns Hopkins University Applied Physics Laboratory)

This video is located in the video gallery section of the Space Academy Web site at: www.spaceacademy.jhuapl.edu

TEACHER/STUDENT REFERENCES:

- NASA's Look to the Future: Careers in Space at: <http://mgs-mager.gsfc.nasa.gov/Kids/careers.html>
- The Johns Hopkins APL's TIMED Web page at: <http://www.timed.jhuapl.edu/index.html>

In the Johns Hopkins APL video "Careers in Space," mechanical engineer Marc Clayton offers great advice to those thinking about such a career. "Start with your own interests!" declares Marc, "and you will find a rewarding place in the space industry." This is an industry that needs engineers and artists, technicians and writers, scientists and business people, artists and mathematicians and so many more talented people.

Start With Your Own Interests!

Let's start searching for a career and career path to the space industry with an interest survey. Here is a list of careers in the space industry. Circle three of the careers that come closest to expressing your personal interests. Put your choices in priority order by ranking them 1 – your first choice, 2 – your second choice, and 3 – your third choice.

Pilots or Crew Members of a Spacecraft

Pilot Astronaut
Mission Specialist
Payload Specialist

Life Scientists

Biologist
Medical Doctor
Physiologist
Nutritionist
Psychologist

Technicians

Electrical/Electronics
Engineering
Aerospace Model
Aircraft
Avionics
Fabrication
Materials
Pattern Maker and Molder

Technical Communicators

Writer
Artist
Editor
Education Specialist
Public Relations
Audiovisual Specialist
Photographer

Physical Scientists

Astronomer
Chemist
Geologist
Meteorologist
Physicist
Oceanographer

Mathematicians

Computer Scientist
Mathematician
Systems Analyst
Statistician

Engineering Designers

Architectural
Electrical
Mechanical

Other Fields

Quality Control Inspector
Ground Radio Operator
Teletypist

Business

Administrators/Managers
Accountants
Lawyers
Clerks
Admin Assistants/Secretaries
Lobbyists

Social Scientists

Economist
Sociologist

Engineers

Aerospace/Astronautics
Chemical
Civil
Biomedical
Computer
Electrical
Industrial
Environmental
Materials
Mechanical
Nuclear
Petroleum
Plastics
Safety
Systems

Other

The High School Years

Visit NASA's Web site "Careers in Aerospace Technology" at: <http://oea.larc.nasa.gov/PAIS/Careers.html>. Scroll down to the section titled "What Should You Do To Prepare For An Aerospace Career Now?" and look at some of the recommended high school courses.

Check with the high school that you will most likely attend and ask for a catalog of course offerings (they may even be available on a Web site). From the catalog list the courses that you think will help you to develop your own interests and also the ones that NASA recommends. Include relevant extra-curricular activities but don't include courses that you don't think are relevant.

	INTEREST COURSES	SPACE COURSES
FRESHMAN YEAR	_____	_____
	_____	_____
	_____	_____
	_____	_____
	_____	_____
SOPHMORE YEAR	_____	_____
	_____	_____
	_____	_____
	_____	_____
	_____	_____
JUNIOR YEAR	_____	_____
	_____	_____
	_____	_____
	_____	_____
	_____	_____
SENIOR YEAR	_____	_____
	_____	_____
	_____	_____
	_____	_____
	_____	_____

The College Years

Visit the “**University Pages**” Web site at http://is1-garnet.uah.edu/Universities_g/ and pick any college that offers a program of study that satisfies your interests and potential career in the space industry. Use the Web page of the college of your choice to answer the following questions:

1. Does your planned high school course of study satisfy the entry requirements for this college and the program that interests you? If not, what is missing?

(Choose another college if you don't meet the requirements and start over.)

2. If you are eligible and meet the admissions requirements:

- a. What degree, diploma or certificate will you earn?

- b. How long will it likely take to earn the degree, diploma or certificate?

- c. What three courses can you take that will satisfy your special interest requirements?
 - d. What do you think will be the three most difficult courses?
 - e. How much will it cost to earn the degree, diploma or certificate at this college?
3. Think about what you have learned about yourself and your aspirations for a satisfying career after completing this activity.
- a. Is a career in the space industry an option you will seriously consider?
 - b. Has this process helped you think about other career options?
 - c. What additional information will you look for in helping you to decide on the path to your future career?