

Get your students into Space!

Ideas, Activities and Experiments to address
Space Science and Astronomy in the Australian
Curriculum 2023



- mike@spaceschool.com

Space Schools in Australia 1992 - 2023



Australian International Space School

A five-day residential program for high school students in Year 11.
Woomera, South Australia



South Australian Space School

A three-day residential program for high school students in Year 10.



Interested in a career in
space science and
technology?

www.spaceschool.com



1992

The International year of Space



AUSTRALIAN INTERNATIONAL SPACE SCHOOL 1994



FRONT: Stephen Curtis (Vic), Lindsay McBride (Tas), Robert McCuskey (Qld), Keith Alexander (NZ), Ken Stone (ACT), John Young (USA), Paul Scully-Power (USA), Greg Talbot (NSW), Jeanette Rothapfel (NSW), Marilyn Mercer (NSW), Beverley Hobson (NSW), Sharon Volp (Qld), Trevor Goodenough (SA).

2ND ROW: Richard Luong (NSW), Bryce Wilkins (Vic), Mai Le Dinh (NSW), Nerissa Green (NSW), Belinda Watkins (NZ), Simon Hannan (Vic), Nyree Harris (Vic), Kimo Mann (Qld), Nadia Khan (ACT), Haydn Meares (NSW), Jocelyn Walker-Smith (Vic), Bridgette Watts (Tas), Saeko Sugiyama (Japan), Ayla Erken (NSW).

3TH ROW: Jason Moore (Qld), Kial-Li Tan (NT), Belinda Casey (Tas), Suzanne Little (Qld), Catherine Sal (Qld), Brooke Ellingworth (WA), Shenna Surling (NZ), Michael Jonack (NSW), Kwan Hui Lee (NSW), Felicity Tanti (NZ), Matthew Holwell (NSW), Kristy Justice (NSW), Louise Sargison (NSW), Trana Wormlestone (NSW), Andrew Zu (WA), Mei Ling Doery (Vic).

BACK ROW: Paul Solomon (NSW), Shannae Knox (SA), John Dekker (Tas), Josh Charalawicz (NSW), Anthony Singh (Qld), Youssef El-Hayek (NSW), Mariano Blaschard (Argentina), Warren Forster (Qld), George Berkowski (NSW), Aaron Chippendale (Qld), George McKelvey (SA), Sam Thomas (NZ), Seanhoon Negarajan (ACT), Maria Isaca (Qld), Charles Williams (Qld), Habert Namani (NZ), Vladimir Yastreboff (NSW).

2ND ROW: Claire Goebel (NSW), Richard Hiles (NSW), Hwang Dong-Gyoo (Korea), Elizabeth Davis (NSW), Ian Watkins (Vic), Bill Zimmermann (ACT), Jeff Cahill (WA), Iano Kojima (Japan), Victor Palitov (USSR), Valentin Kazuchenko (USSR), Alexander Von Bruch (NSW).

3TH ROW: Luke Ingles (Qld), Kye Grenton (NSW), Katrina Bland (Vic), Vanessa Robson (NSW), Hayley Thomas (Vic), Dong-Chan Kim (Korea), Michelle Gartin (Vic), Tomohide Ishihara (Japan), Renee Rusciffe (SA), Ileg Ibrahim (NSW), Nadine McCarthy (NSW), Yoshitaka Katsumata (Japan), Minh-Dang Ts (NSW), Briony Dawes (ACT).

4TH ROW: Kate Graham (Qld), Fiona Guy (ACT), James Gifford (WA), Jade Bond (NSW), Joanne Hyde (Vic), Alex Popovic (Vic), Nigel Morris (NSW), Fiona Whelan (Vic), Fiona Saunders (Vic), William Mckay (NT), Bryn Batterby (NSW), Glenn Wilson (Qld), Alan Ng (NSW), Craig Beane (NSW), Kevin Webb (NZ), Max Meier (Tas).

ABSENT: Margaret Davies (Vic), Brian Robson (NSW).

B & C MOORE P/L - FOTOMAKERS

U.S. Space & Rocket Center

1992

U.S. Space and Rocket Center
Huntsville, Alabama

INTERNATIONAL DELEGATES

ARGENTINA Ricardo Akides Malvasio Lucia Gagliardini Jose Jorge Lipovetzky*	GREECE Ioannis Roussos Paschopoulos* Panagiotis Martinis Tina Stamata Tolis Konstantinos Tani* Agapi Christaki Pancos Sinopoulos	NETHERLANDS Dr. Willem J.H. Brakman* Jeroen Vernooij Mark Beekemolen
AUSTRALIA Emma Ryan Paul Davies Mike Roach*	HONG KONG Ming-Keng Lee Mon Ching Wong Kwok Choy Yue*	NEW ZEALAND Belinda Wilkinson Louise Parsons Pat Quaid*
AUSTRIA Alexander Damianisch Christian Mondre Christoph Rainer Hanc*	HUNGARY Tamas Bartal Aida Farkas Elod Bod*	NORWAY Mrs. Berit Brusevold* Ms. Maren Kolle Riis Mr. Trond Karsten Varlot
BELGIUM Anthony Guepin Caroline De Vos Jean-Marie Renard*	INDIA Dilip K. Pathak* Poonacha D. Baduyanda Binuparno Gowami	RUSSIA Olga Leonidovna Ginesina*
BULGARIA Dessislava Tchaparova Nickolai Ganchev Zhivodar S. Terziev*	IRELAND Nollag Donnabhain* Heber McMahon Jacqueline Flynn	SAUDI ARABIA Nouf Salma Mohammed Salma Faisal Salma*
CANADA Isabelle Anderson Veronica Golfi Stewart Craven*	ISRAEL Yaron Levy Zohab Mistrui	SINGAPORE Mr. Kwek Hiok Chuang Mr. Lee Lui Shiong Miss Sharon Lau
COLOMBIA Lisa Karina Nabors Jaime Rodriguez Gutierrez Liliana Ospina*	ITALY Emiliano Greganti Francesca Filippini Daniela Magnanini* Christina Corradetti*	SOUTH AFRICA Mr. Nikita Cindi* Mr. Jacobus Fourie Gogo Siziba
FINLAND Mark Mehtonen Jussi Oskari Torppa Juha Pitula*	JAPAN Takashi Nomura Kumiko Yamane Takashi Fujita*	SPAIN Ernesto Frutos* Ignacio B. Blasco Ana Comellas
FRANCE Barbara Lepecheur Olivier Mare Michel Touzan*	KOREA Jin Ho Jung* Yong Suk Chung Kyu-Baek Oh	UNITED KINGDOM Elizabeth Alderson Ian Hall Jennifer Lockwood*
GERMANY Alexander Oskar Siffrin Stefan Eggers Ursula Oesterholz - Kraemer*	MEXICO Monica Martel Mauricio Sanders Constantino A. Medina*	
	NIGERIA J.U. Idichaba Augustine Ugwamba Olorunka* Enem Okon Eifanga Ahimbola Babatunde Oluwalanle	



At the White House





Based in Sydney 1992-1996
Initially funded by the Australia
Government for the
International Year of Space with
excursions to
Coonabarabran, Siding
Springs, Canberra, Mt.
Stromlo, Canberra Deep Space
Complex



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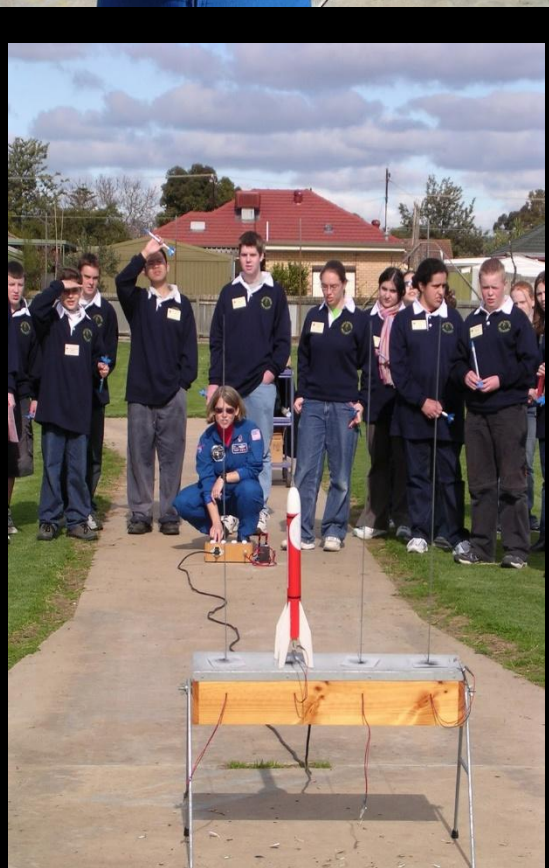
My Journey from 1992

- 1992-1999 AISS facilitator
- 1993 CRA Fellowship investigation of Astronomy
- 1992 Space Science & Astronomy Course 8-10
- 1995 \$8K STAP Grant Satellite Technology
- 1997 [Established SA Space School](#)
- 1997 STAP \$6K grant to bring Rocketry into SA
- 1999 Convenor Tasmanian Space School
- 2001 [Churchill Fellowship](#) to NASA Education



Staff and Sponors SA Space School 2003









A Taste from the Region

Wines Lachlan Valley	\$4
Penfolds	
Zinfandel, Pinot, Chardonnay	
Olives - Relish - Almonds	
Matured Cheese	
Apple Bread	
Spring Water	\$20
Wine cool by the glass -	
White Wine	\$3.00
Red Wine	\$4.40
Soft Drinks	\$1.50

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NT Spaceschool



Jim's Catch





The journey continues

Sir Ross & Sir Keith Smith Fund

Astronauts to South Australia

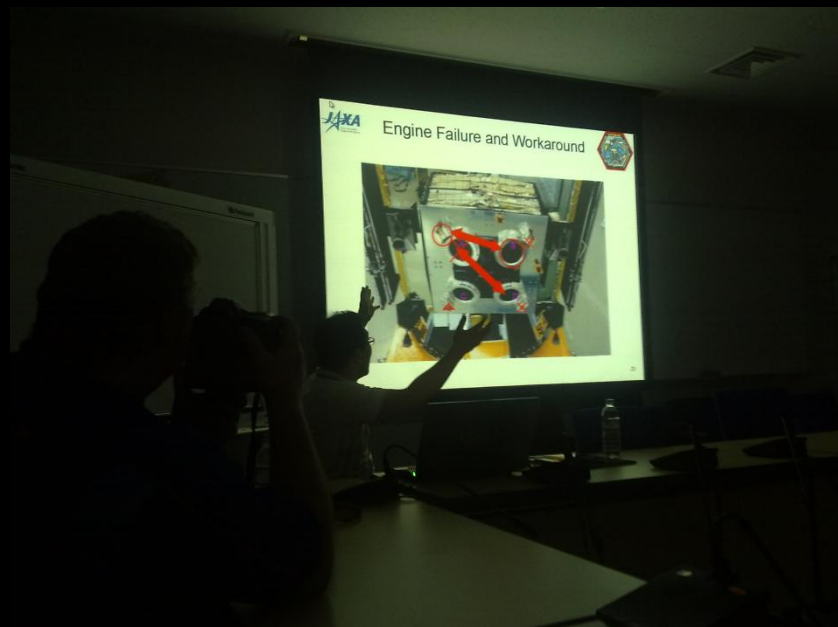
Students sponsored to USA

Woomera 2004-2010

Canberra 2007 and VSSEC 2011-16

\$10k JAXA Australia Japan

Foundation with VSSEC and ASTA 2010



[SA Space School visits Victorian Space Science Education Centre](#)



National Space Camp VSSEC 2011



National Space Camp VSSEC 2011



National Space Camp VSSEC 2011



National Space Camp VSSEC 2011



National Space Camp VSSEC 2011



National Space Camp VSSEC 2011



The
Andy
Thomas
Space
Foundation

Teacher Space Science Education Programme

OUR PLACE IN SPACE



Workshops for science Teachers 2010 -



Teacher Space Science Education Programme

Teaching and learning about Our Place in Space

Misconceptions

- Prior knowledge
- Activities to address misconceptions

Science / Year 7 / Science Understanding / *Earth and space sciences*

Curriculum content descriptions

Predictable phenomena on Earth, including seasons and eclipses, are caused by the relative positions of the sun, Earth and the moon ([ACSSU115](#))

Elaborations

- investigating natural phenomena such as lunar and solar eclipses, seasons, and phases of the moon
- comparing times for the rotation of Earth, the sun and moon, and comparing the times for the orbits of Earth and the moon
- modelling the relative movements of the Earth, sun and moon and how natural phenomena such as solar and lunar eclipses and phases of the moon occur
- explaining why different regions of the Earth experience different seasonal conditions

ACTIVITIES: ***Workshop 1 “Our Place in Space”***

- Addressing misconceptions about Our Place in Space (ppt)
- Post Box Activity
- A walk through the Solar System
- Bringing the Earth Down to Size (activity and worksheet)
- Pipehenge and Daytime Astronomy. Building a mini Pipehenge.
- The Night sky in June
- Phases of the Moon and the Seasons
- Shadow measurements and the Noonday project
- Who is really “Down Under”?
- The Earth at Night

SCOOTLE

- <http://www.scootle.edu.au/ec/search?accContentId=ACSSU115>

- **Science / Year 7 / Science Understanding /**
- **Change to an object's motion is caused by unbalanced forces, including Earth's gravitational attraction, acting on the object ([ACSSU117](#))**
- **Elaborations**
- investigating the effects of applying different forces to familiar objects
- investigating common situations where forces are balanced, such as stationary objects, and unbalanced, such as falling objects.
- exploring how gravity affects objects on the surface of Earth.
- considering how gravity keeps planets in orbit around the sun.

- **ACTIVITIES Workshop 2 *Gravity gets me Down***
- Addressing Misconceptions
- Post box activity
- Gravitational forces in the Solar System
- Air resistance, mass and weight
- Gravity in space.
- Activity “How high can you Jump?”
- Building the First Moon Base
- Microgravity experiments, activities, and demonstrations
- Launching into orbit, activities, and experiments on the International Space Station
-
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-
- **SCOOTLE**
- **<http://www.scootle.edu.au/ec/search?accContentId=ACSSU117>**

Science / Year 10 / Science understanding / Earth and space sciences

[View on Australian Curriculum website](#)



- **Curriculum content descriptions**
- describe how the big bang theory models the origin and evolution of the universe and analyse the supporting evidence for the theory ([AC9S10U03](#))
- **Elaborations**
- describing the major components of the universe using appropriate scientific terminology and units including astronomical units, scientific notation and light-years
- constructing a timeline to show major changes in the universe which are thought to have occurred from the Big Bang until the formation of the major components such as stars and galaxies.

- examining how stars' light spectra and brightness is used to identify compositional elements of stars, their movements and their distances from Earth.
- explaining how each different type of evidence, such as cosmic microwave background radiation, red or blue shift of galaxies, Edwin Hubble's observations and proportion of matter in the universe, provides support for the acceptance of the big bang theory.
- researching First Nations Australians' knowledges of celestial bodies and explanations of the origin of the universe
- identifying the different technologies used to collect astronomical data and the types of data collected.
- exploring recent advances in astronomy, including the Australian Square Kilometre Array Pathfinder, and astrophysics, such as the discovery of gravitational waves, dark matter, and dark energy; and identifying new knowledge which has emerged.

Teacher Space Science Education Programme

How Students Learn

- form new concepts by combining what they believed and what teacher tells them
- need to “unlearn” misconceptions before they can learn new concepts
- need to observe and record what they see, look for patterns, make predictions and formulate explanations for their observations



The
Andy
Thomas
Space
Foundation

Teacher Space Science Education Programme

Our Place in Space

ACTIVITY ONE

Walk through the Solar System

(Pluto is included in the activity but students should be reminded that it is no longer regarded as a planet)

Teacher Space Science Education Programme



A Walk through the Solar System

Compare the size of the planet and the distance away from our Sun. The Sun is 109 mm in diameter.

OBJECT	DIAMETER	DISTANCE from Sun
Sun	109mm	
Mercury	0.33 mm	5 m
Venus	1 mm	8.5 m
Earth	1 mm	12 m

Teacher Space Science Education Programme

A complete set of sheets that
can be laminated for display.

The SUN 109 mm diameter

Teacher Space Science Education Programme

ACTIVITY TWO

Bringing Earth Down to Size

**This activity could also be extended to include
the interior of the Earth**



Teacher Space Science Education Programme

ACTIVITY THREE

The Earth at Night Night Light Poster



Teacher Space Science Education Programme

- Pipehenge if you are lucky enough to have one helps understanding of our place in space.



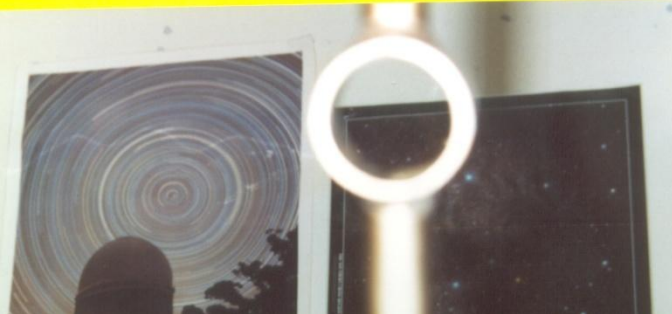


Space Science and Astronomy at the Technology School of the Future



Portable Pipehenge

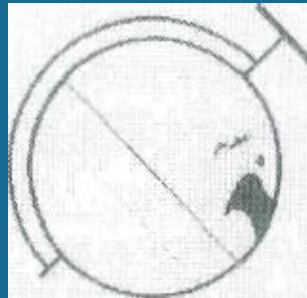
Daytime Astronomy



Teacher Space Science Education Programme

Who is Down Under?

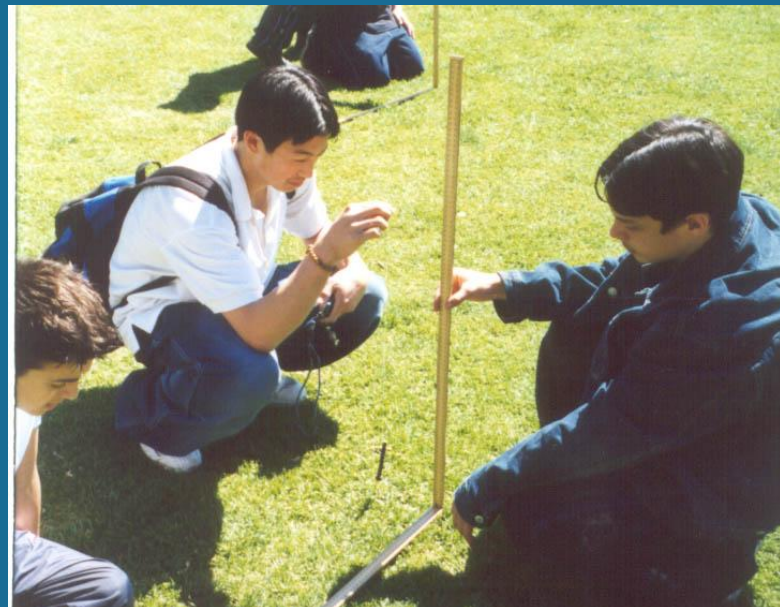
This article was published in [the SASTA Journal](#)



Teacher Space Science Education Programme

Drawing shadows, shadow sticks and observations

Bringing the earth down to size



Teacher Space Science Education Programme

Learning objects from SCOOTLE



Teaching and learning about gravity and space science



Understandings about gravity

- The meaning of the word gravity
- Meaning of “vertical” and “horizontal”

- Air and gravity
(Demonstration)
- Meaning of “vacuum”



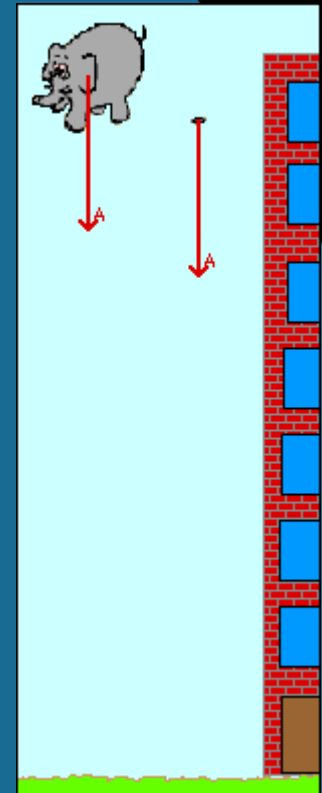
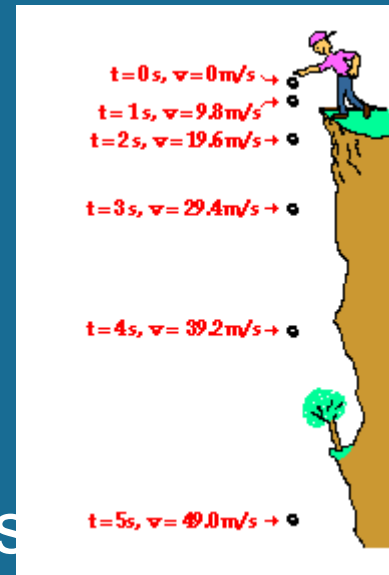
The feather and the coin

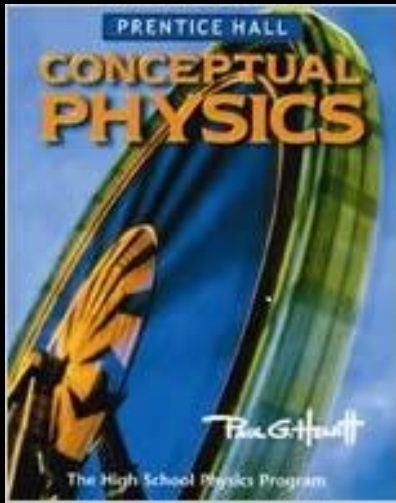
Brian Cox in a vacuum



More Understandings

- Meaning of “g”
- “Feeling” the weight
(Pressure or Mass)
- Weight and weightlessness
- Free fall and projectile motion





Help with Physics Concepts

<https://www.sdavies.com/video/help.html>



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jB6UBIzpkIc>

Hewitt activities and Worksheets

- Linear Motion
- Projectile Motion
- Bronco Billy

International Space Station



- https://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/station/main/index.html
- <https://storytimefromspace.com/free-fall/>

MICROGRAVITY

Activities

Microgravity [Experiments](#) at
Space School You Tube

DEMONSTRATIONS of MICROGRAVITY

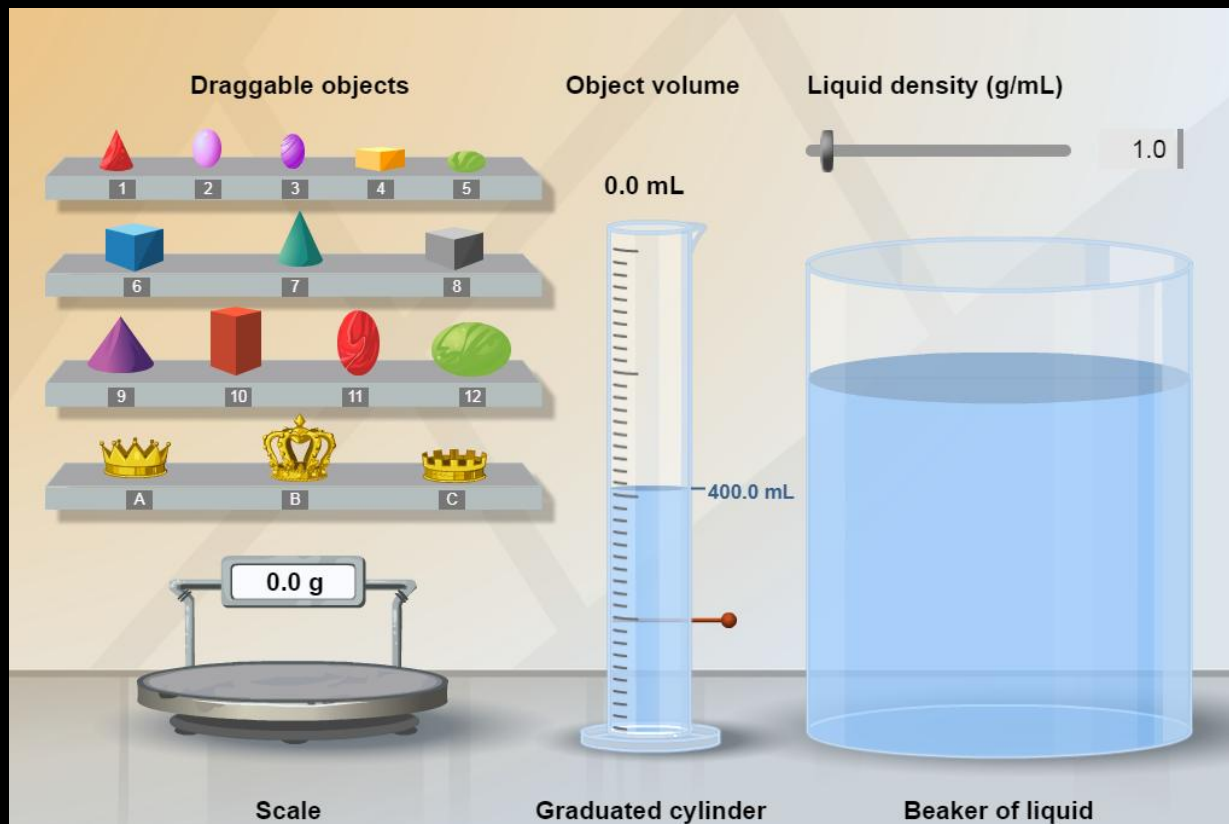
- [Drop Cup and others](#)
 - [Microgravity 101](#)
- [Mission Science Booklet](#)
- [Microgravity Concepts](#)
article by Mike Roach



South Australian Space School 2014

Density Lab

explorelearning.com





South Australian Space School 2018



South Australian Space School 2018



South Australian Space School 2018



South Australian Space School 2018

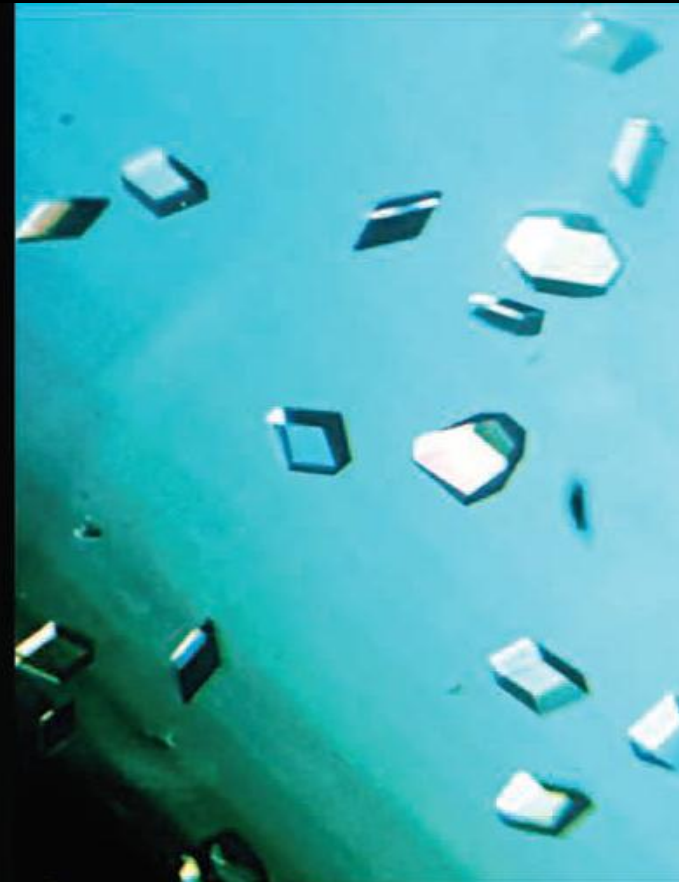
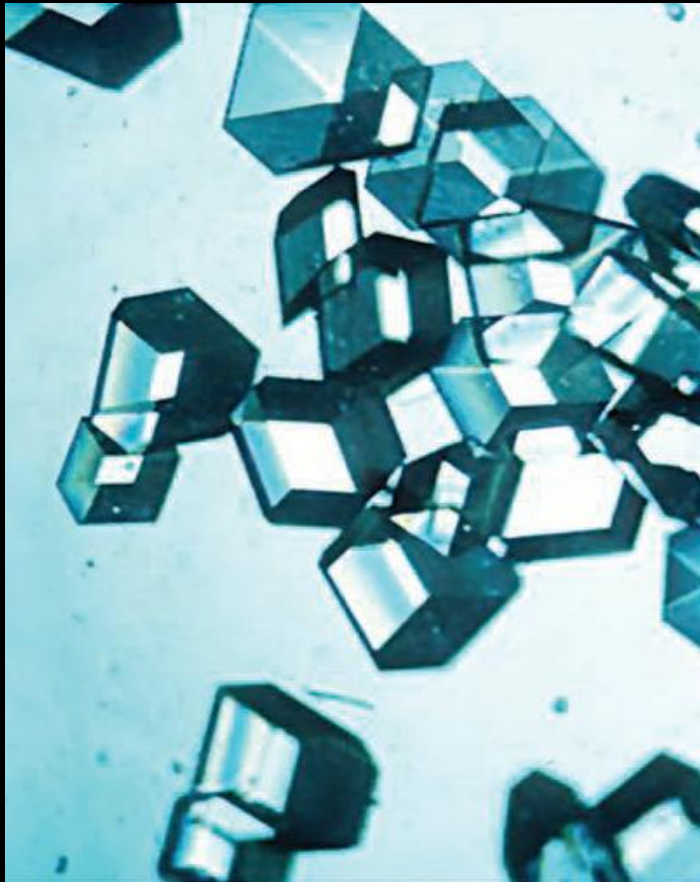


South Australian Space School 2008



South Australian Space School 2018

CRYSTAL GROWTH on INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION





THE KISSING BUG

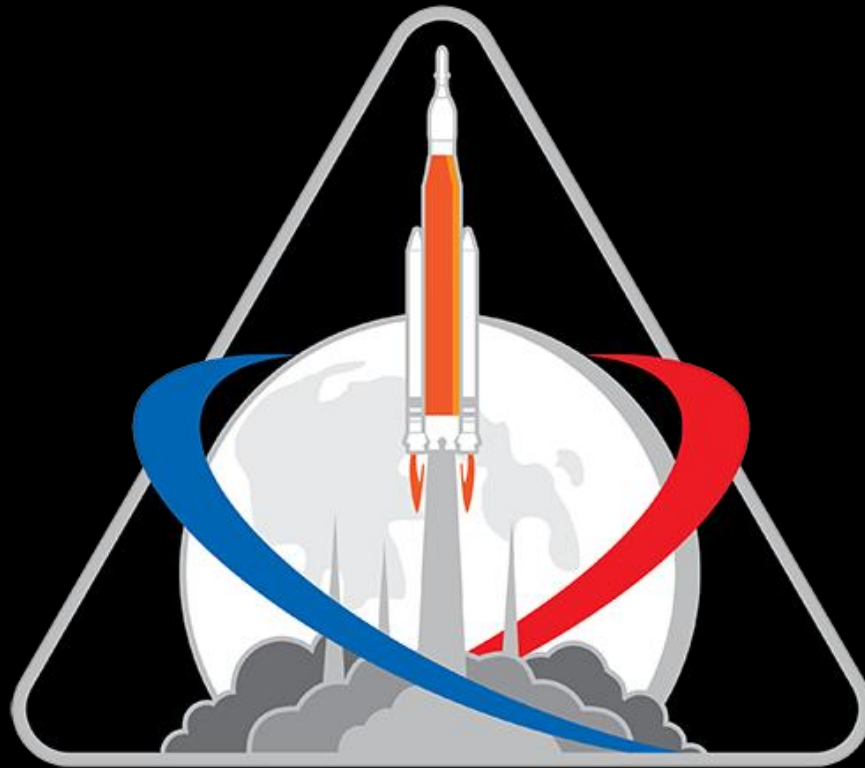


International Space Station



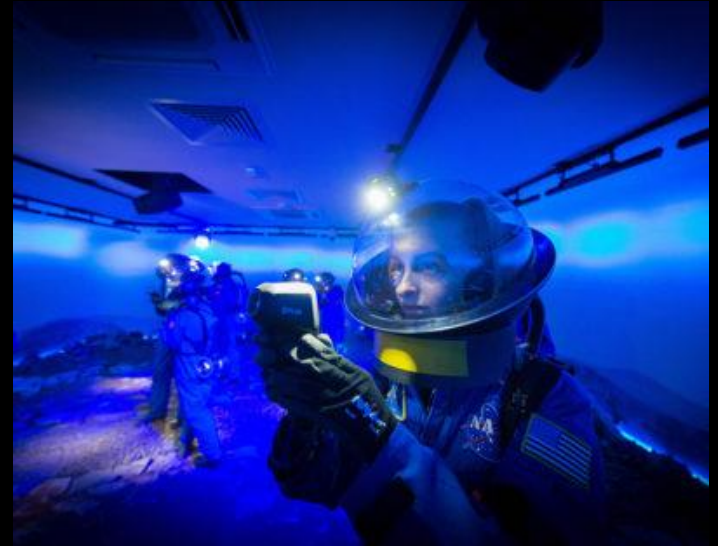
- Experiments and activities in Microgravity
Science [Missions](#)

NASA will land the first woman and
next man on the Moon by 2024





[NASA EXPRESS](#) Sign on

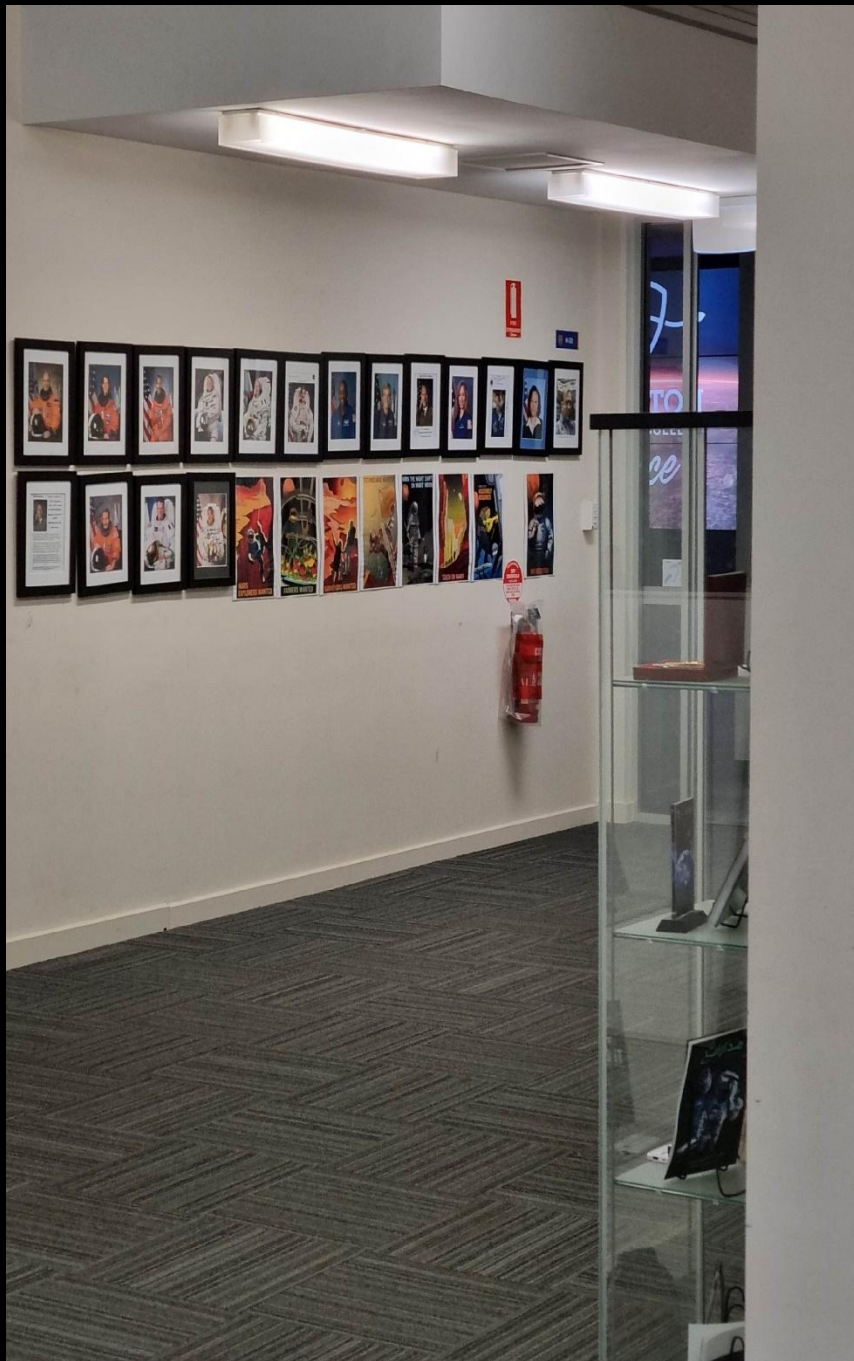


<https://youtu.be/5u2-jqPTKyk>



SASS April 2023







MISSION CONTROL

Visit to ASA Discovery Centre





HAMILTON
SECONDARY COLLEGE

Space
SCHOOL



Government of South Australia
Department for Education





Come along tomorrow for
a guided tour of the
facilities at Hamilton
Secondary Space
School!

Please book in with either
Sarah Baker or myself so
we know how many will
be attending.

THANK YOU