FACT SHEET

Education Programs

There is so much for educators and their students at the nonprofit Space Center Houston, owned and operated by the Manned Space Flight Education Foundation. We are among the nation's leading science and space exploration learning centers. Our educational programs are based on national science standards and focus on science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) to help adults and children think critically, learn about the present, future and past of human space exploration and build collaboration and a greater understanding of the world. The children we inspire today could be among the first humans to walk on Mars or explore other worlds. Unlock their potential with any of our incredible educational programs.

Stars and STEM

Spend an exciting evening with Stars & STEM. We provide engaging, hands-on activities developed according to grade-level standards so students are challenged, inspired and eager to explore STEM concepts when they return to campus.

Space Center U®

Take the next step in space education with Space Center University®, a challenging, three- or five-day immersive experience in which middle-school, high-school and college-level students, as well as educators, live the dream of space exploration. Space Center U® promotes teamwork, communications, problem solving and adapting to unexpected situations. Our ultimate educational experience combines science and engineering with cognitive and tactile tasks, Space Center U® simulates astronaut training and real-world NASA experiences. Learn about rocket science, engineer a space habitat, train under water like an astronaut and tour working training facilities.

Field Trips

Inspire your students through the wonders of space exploration with a field trip they will never forget. With more than 400 things to see and do, students learn while experiencing real STEM applications, including the Mission Mars exhibit, Independence Plaza, multiple flown spacecraft, a real moon rock they can touch and a comprehensive collection of spacesuits.

Generous donors enable us to provide greatly reduced or free admission for schools qualifying under the federal Title I Program, helping to ignite students' passion.

Enhance your field trip experience with guided Starship Gallery tours, Neutral Buoyancy Lab tours and Stars & STEM. Field trip enhancements brighten any visit to Space Center Houston. Classes are available for kindergarten through 12th grades.
Distance Learning
Take learning to a new level with our state-of-the-art, hands-on, live video sessions streamed from multiple locations within Space Center Houston. Students can explore planetary science, human spaceflight and engineering with experienced STEM educators in an exciting virtual setting. Educators teach about spacesuits while standing in front of actual moon suits. Space Center Houston offers several interactive options for each grade level. Each Distance Learning module is aligned with the national standards and can be implemented easily into your classroom.

Orbital Outreach
Excite students' minds and bring space exploration into the classroom to reach your curriculum goals. If you are seeking an alternative to a field trip or need help with a science event, Space Center Houston can bring STEM-based, interactive presentations to your location. Our experienced staff can engage small groups of up to 30 people or provide presentations for up to 250 at your location. Orbital Outreach can be customized to fit the needs of your audience. Bring space to your classroom today!

Overnight Experiences
Families, American Heritage Girls, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts can camp in space. Spend a night and discover one-of-a-kind space artifacts. Explore STEM through hands-on learning and challenging activities. Customized programs allow campers to be engaged, immersed and inspired at our premier science and space exploration learning center.

Day Camps
Let our center ignite your child's imagination with inspiring innovations and discoveries. Campers 4 to 11 years old experience science and the future of spaceflight while having an amazing time in our day camps. We offer a diverse collection of age-appropriate camps during spring break, the summer, the fall and December holidays.

Youth STEM Academies
Space Center Houston offers two in-depth STEM experiences for students. These special learning programs are invitation only. Girls STEM Academy is a gender-specific program that encourages middle-school girls to apply STEM concepts and skills through hands-on, inquiry-based learning. The curriculum meets the needs of diverse learners and supports state and national initiatives to improve math and science performance. Exploration Academy immerses students and their teachers in space-science learning over a 12-week period. It is a project-based, problem-based science program for public and charter school students in fifth grade.

Space Exploration Educators Conference (SEEC)
Experience three days of complete immersion into STEM and space-related professional development. This conference is for educators teaching all grade levels and not just science teachers. Space Center Houston integrates space across the various curricula including science, language arts, mathematics, history and more. Attend sessions presented by educators and receive ready-to-implement classroom ideas while experiencing minds-on, hands-on fun. Network with fellow educators, take back a multitude of cross-curriculum ideas and activities and earn 24 hours of continuing professional education credit.