NASA STEM – RYSS Space Science Activities

Student Feedback

I thought the experiments were fun because we got to set up a test similar to NASA's to test the astronaut's space suit, and set up another test about how gravity affects a rocket's orbit. I really liked dropping the rocks [debris] from different heights [25cm, 50cm, 75cm, 100cm].

Nathaniel Morales, 8th Grade, RYSS

We tested different materials with rocks from 25cm, 50cm, 75cm and 100cm. The second activity, we used an eraser and string to make the eraser go around a ball.

Edward Lopez, 8th Grade, RYSS

Activity one was fun and exciting. I liked the activity because we wanted to see what kind of material would be better for an astronaut's space suit. This activity might prevent the loss of life of an astronaut. The second activity was very cool because it showed that Earth has a gravitational pull and how our astronauts come back.

Fedrick Alvarado, 8th Grade, RYSS

The experiments were cool, and they showed us more new things about space suits. One of the things that I learned is that when rockets orbit, they need to go faster to stay away from Earth. I think these experiments would be good to show young children.

Sandra Salgado, 8th Grade, RYSS

The higher the rocks were dropped, the stronger the hit. The small rock didn't do much damage. The medium-sized rock did damage to both materials from 100cm. And the large rock did damage from all heights. The project was cool. The second project was about how a rocket goes around Earth. It was a little bit hard trying to keep the rocket [eraser] going around the ball. But, it was fun and interesting. I really liked the projects. They were fun.

Gabriel Luevano, 8th Grade, RYSS

All the things we did were simple activities. I think a fourth grader could do them. I think we are capable of doing more complicated things. But, it was okay. I hope later, you'll have something harder. I think that it's cool you are a real NASA worker. Thank you for letting us do the activities.

Gustavo Rodriguez, 8th Grade, RYSS

The space suit test was a good activity. I could teach younger students how to do this. I think this activity should be used in school so students could learn about space.

Karen Pena, 8th Grade, RYSS

We learned that astronauts could be killed in space by high-speed trash [debris].

Adrian Castillo, 8th Grade, RYSS

The activities were so cool. Trying to test materials for a better space suit, and trying to get the eraser [rocket] to go around the ball [Earth] was awesome.

Tania Nieves, 8th Grade, RYSS

These activities were really fun. You can have a lot of fun with your team. I think this is a good way to learn about the astronauts and what they have to go through. Everyone can do these experiments. They are really easy, and there are not a lot of materials to buy. I can teach elementary kids these activities by just following the directions, and doing everything safely. They would always be good experiences for the young ones. My favorite activity was the rock [debris] one. And I saw all the layers of the materials that the astronauts have for their space suits.

Natali Guajardo, 8th Grade, RYSS

I think that the activities were very good to help understand what happens out in space. I also think that I could teach these activities to elementary students. How does this affect the type of materials they will use? I do understand the results.

Christopher Martinez, 8th Grade, RYSS

The first activity was about space debris and testing new materials for making safer space suits for the astronauts. It was a good activity, and we could teach it to younger students. They would understand the idea. The second activity was good, too. It showed about Earth having gravity and how the ISS could fall back. It is better to show by handson rather than a book. The kids will enjoy and learn these activities.

Denorah Espinoza, 8th Grade, RYSS

These space science activities were really good because I like doing hands-on rather than reading from a book. This is really cool because this is what workers do in real life. I like the debris one the most because it is to help the astronauts. I think I would be able to teach these space science activities to elementary students.

Jainemari Guajardo, 8th Grade, RYSS

These are good activities. They are kind of easy, and you experience many things like how a rocket goes around Earth, and if you were to wear a space suit, you would need to protect yourself from trash [debris]. The best activity was the debris one because it made you see how trash [debris] can go through a space suit. The activity was easy, and it could be taught to third grade.

Jonathan Ramirez, 8th Grade, RYSS

I really enjoyed these activities, and I'm looking forward to going to NASA to see the amazing things you have there. The activity I enjoyed the most was the debris one. I liked it very much because we were trying to see which materials would pass and fail the test. I think this was a better way to learn because of hands-on, and it helped me understand more. I think this is amazing, and maybe someday, I'll be someone like you.

Maria D. Talavera, 8th Grade, RYSS

The activities we did together were awesome. I really liked the space debris activity because it showed us that an astronaut's spacesuit material could be damaged. This was a good example [test] to understand. The rocket and Earth was a good activity because it had to do with force and gravity. I liked the solar panel activity more because it had to do with Science and Math. It was a good demonstration to see how much of the solar panel was damaged. All the activities were good, and elementary students could learn these.

Marvelin Martinez, 8th Grade, RYSS

I think these activities can improve what students might not know. It can teach students faster and better. I also think that middle school students can teach other students these amazing activities. These activities taught me a lot. They helped me understand why Space Scientists test materials. They test them to see which materials are stronger. As soon as they know, they can use those materials to help protect the astronauts. These activities were fun, cool, amazing, and real. Doing these activities helped us understand faster of why they test certain objects [things], and things they might go through if anything goes wrong like all of the Math we did to find out how much power was needed and left. I think these activities could be taught to elementary students. The activities can teach a lot in a little bit of time.

Stepheny Lara, 8th Grade, RYSS

I learned that people at NASA have to test so many materials for a lot of things to keep the astronauts in space safe and so they won't get hurt. The first activity was cool because it showed us how they test materials and how fast debris can go. The second activity was also cool because it showed us how much velocity was needed to go into outer space. The third activity showed us about the solar panel, and how it got damaged, and we had to do Math. I think we can teach elementary students how to do these. They are easy to learn and fun.

Kassandra Rodriguez, 8th Grade, RYSS

I think this experience was cool on how we got to do The Scientific Method [hypothesis]. I found this very interesting. It was cool because we had hands-on. I'm looking forward to going to NASA to see all the cool space outfits and other things they wear to go into outer space. I enjoyed the debris and velocity activities. I think I could teach elementary students how to do these activities. It was an easy process.

Eylyana Garza, 8th Grade, RYSS

The Science activities were fun and exciting. I really thought in my imagination that I was an engineer. We tested some materials with debris, and sometimes, they didn't break, and sometimes, they did. I had never had fun in Science like this. I had fun this time. I wish I could go to NASA to see how they do these things, and how they handle the materials that they make the space suits from.

Alejandro Contreras, 8th Grade, RYSS