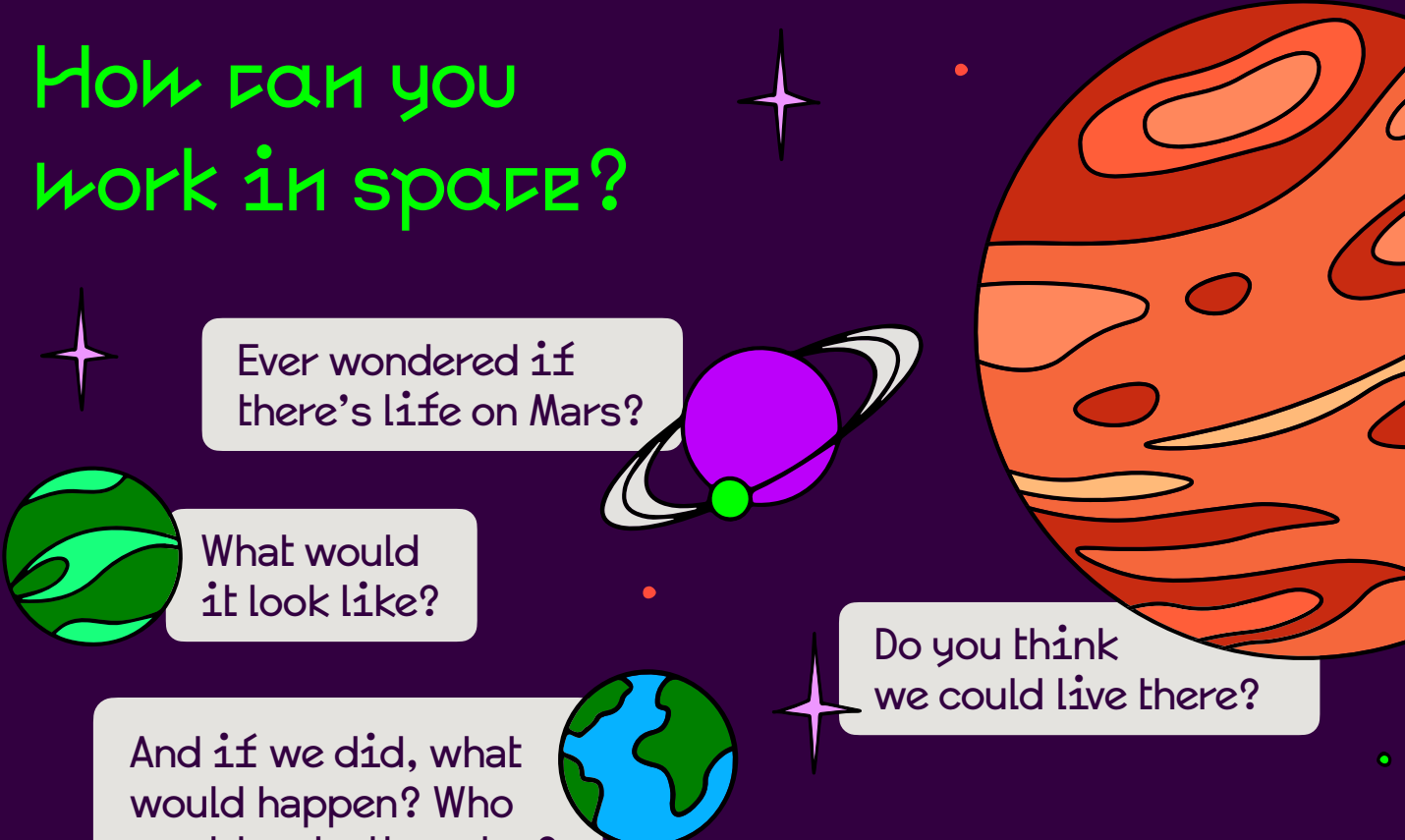


Jobs in space you didn't know existed

How can you work in space?



Ever wondered if there's life on Mars?

What would it look like?

And if we did, what would happen? Who would make the rules?

Do you think we could live there?

Activity

These are the questions people across the space sector are trying to answer. From intergalactic artists to satellite sellers and lunar lawyers, the opportunities for a job in space really are infinite!

Space isn't just for astronauts or rocket scientists. There's a lot more to it. In this activity you'll learn about some of the jobs in space you didn't even know existed, and what it takes to create your own place in space.



For school



For home

Guidance for teachers, parents and guardians



Children will learn what types of roles are available in the space sector, what skills and qualifications they might need, and what activities the job might involve.

Activity: Students will design their own space job.

Approximate time: 60 minutes.

Target age: 11-14 year old, KS3.

Specific Learning Outcomes:

- I can identify and describe different job roles related to space.
- I can ask and answer questions using specific terminology.
- I can discuss and clearly explain my understanding and ideas in a group.
- I can give examples of my own skills and characteristics to communicate why there is a 'place in space' for me.

Activity Resources/ materials

- Computer with internet access to watch video material (noted in instructions).
- Activity sheet – **one printout per child.**
- Pencils and markers.
- 'I'm a Space Person' career postcards – **choose 4-5 of the job roles, display on screen/print out a copy of each.**

Extra guidance for those in the classroom

All activities are focused on raising awareness of the varied careers in the UK space industry and are tailored to a specific age group. The aim is to inspire students towards an interest in further STEAM activities and relevant careers.

Curriculum subjects

- Science: Physics
- Space

‘Working Scientifically’ – students will be able to “ask questions and develop a line of enquiry based on observations of the real world, alongside prior knowledge and experience.”

Some **crossover curricula** links include: Computing, English, Art and Citizenship.

Children will engage **skills** such as: problem solving, working scientifically, written transcription and composition, independent research, making formal presentations, exploring ideas, discussion, using new vocabulary and creative thinking.

Activity resources/ materials

- Projector and computer with internet access – **to show whole class videos** (noted in instructions).
- Activity sheet – one printout per child.
- Pencils and markers – enough to go around the class.
- ‘I’m a Space Person’ career postcards – choose 4-5 of the job roles, display on screen/ print out a copy of each to share around the class for the main lesson and activity.
- Children will need to be sat in groups of 3 or 4.

Instructions



Starter

1. Individually/as a whole group, ask the children to call out ideas and **answers to the following question:**
 - a. There are lots of different jobs you can have in space. You could be an astronaut or an engineer... "Can you name as many as possible in one minute? I'll go first: a space artist!"
2. **Introduce Tim Peake using the [BBC Bitesize page](#)**; a British astronaut who spent 173 days on the International Space Station in 2015. On the webpage, click on the following two questions and watch the videos: 'How do you become an astronaut?' and 'what inspires you about space?'

Main Lesson

1. **Explore lesser-known space related jobs**, using videos and links provided. Children can choose videos to watch from the '[Find Your Space! YouTube playlist](#)' as a class.
2. **Select some unusual roles from the ['I'm a Spaceperson' career postcards](#)** (as noted in 'resources/materials') and use the to discuss skills and experience i.e.
 - a. Introduce the role of a flight surgeon. Ask students to guess what this might involve before revealing the postcard explanation.
 - b. Discuss what would make a person good at this role: use the sentence model "I'm a [creative/ open minded/logical] person" to help.
 - c. Repeat with a space journalist/ satellite sales person etc.



Instructions

Activity

1. Following on from the setup, children will now complete the **'design your own space job' activity sheet**.
2. Hand out the sheet and ask children to fill in **Task 1**: "I'm a [creative/open minded/logical] person" about themselves.
3. Ask them to "think about something they enjoy doing or are good at." Get them to write this down in **Task 2**. Encourage them to ask their group for ideas and opinions.
4. Now tell children they need to design a new space role for themselves, using their skills and strengths. It can be as specific/unusual/creative as they like!
5. Children will now fill in **Task 3**:
 - a. Their job title.
 - b. A description of the job (signpost back to careers postcards for example).
 - c. What skills and qualifications are needed to do this job? (do they need to be good at maths? Fluent in German?).
 - d. What kind of activities does the role involve? What will they do on a daily basis?
6. If there is time, children can volunteer to present their new job to the class or tell their partners/group about it.

Resources for teachers or parents/guardians



Here you will find all the links and background information you will need to support you, plus further resources if time/interest allows.

Setup resources

Tim Peake: Ask an Astronaut

- This [BBC Bitesize page](#) has a couple of videos featuring Tim Peake, which serve as a good starting point to introduce the activity theme of job roles and inspiration in space.
- Use ‘How do you become an astronaut?’ and ‘what inspires you about space?’ during this lesson. You may want to revisit some of the other video answers if children have more space station related questions.

Tim Peake: The essential facts about British astronaut

- This [BBC news video](#) will give you some background knowledge about Tim Peake and his journey to becoming an astronaut. Please note this was released before he went to space in 2015.

I’m a Space Person – Career Postcards

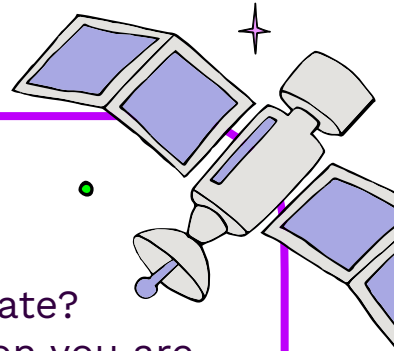
- Downloadable (and printable) [career postcards](#), offering job role ideas, descriptions, possible employers and the routes into these professions.
- You only need a couple of these to use during the lesson.
- Note that not all of these roles require degrees.

The UK National Space Academy – Find Your space

- This [‘Find Your Space’ YouTube playlist](#) has some good interviews with professionals in lesser-known space related jobs, discussing their inspiration, background, experience and what they do on a daily basis.
- We recommend that the children watch [Joanne Wheeler – space lawyer](#) who has a varied role which includes drafting regulations for Life on Mars. She was the first person in her family to go to university. She discusses other subjects which influence her work now: biology, anthropology and neuroscience.
- [Dhara Patel – space expert](#) – as one of three girls in her Physics Degree, she is passionate about the advantages of diversity within the space sector. Her role involves creating content, outreach, presenting in front of crowds, writing blogs, organising and curating events and even speaking on the radio.

Activity sheet

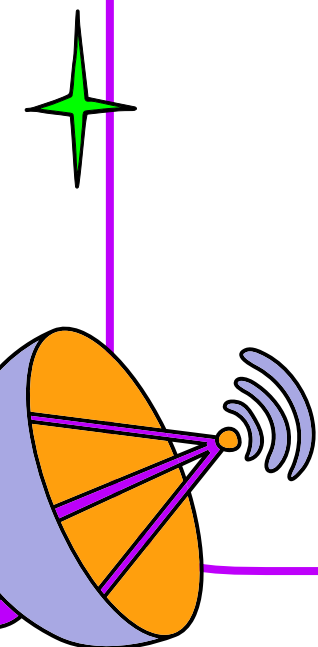
Design your own space job



Task 1: Who are you?

Are you creative? Communicative? Logical? Passionate?
Using the space below write about the sort of person you are.

“I’m a Person”

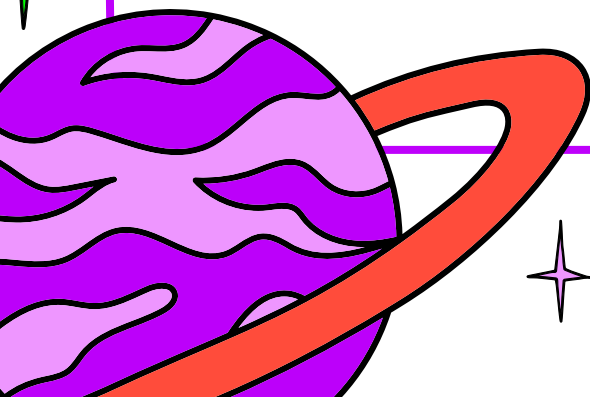
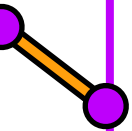


Task 2: What are you good at?

What do you enjoy doing?

Using the space below write about what you enjoy doing.

Write your ideas here!

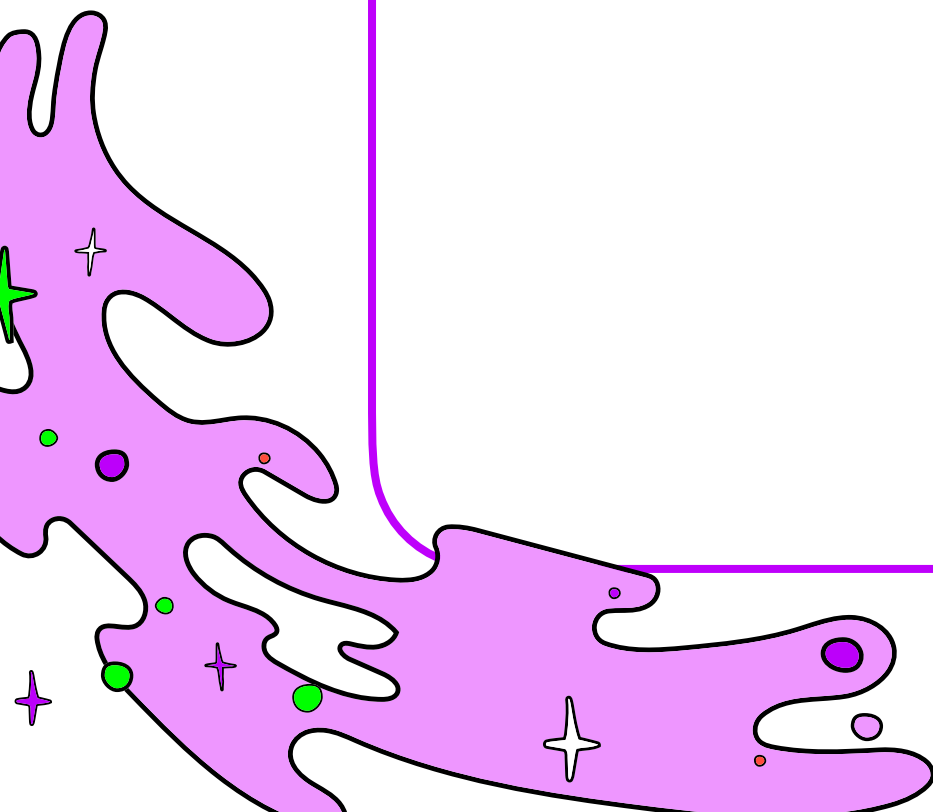
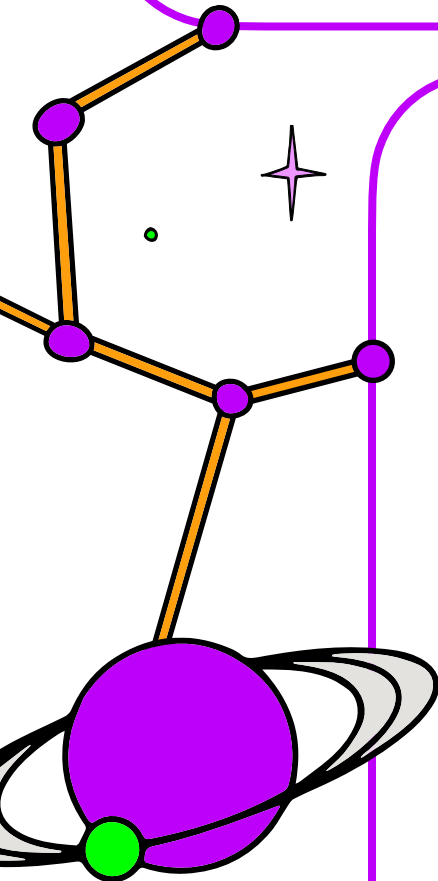


Task 3: My future space job

1. What do you want your future job to be?

Title:

2. Write what your future job description will be. Use the postcards to help you.



3. What do you need to be good at? Maths? Science?
Do you need to be fluent in German?

4. What kind of activities does the job involve?
What will you do on a daily basis?