

## **2007 Space Academy Trip Summary**

**By Student Jessica Esparza**

While I was at Space Camp, I had an awesome experience and a great opportunity to meet more people. At the beginning, it was boring because we didn't do anything, and we didn't know anybody. Then we met our team leaders, Kathleen and Marcelus. Also, we met our group CHARON. My teammates were funny and very friendly. I started meeting new people and making new friends.

Our team leaders took us to different places. We went in different rides: G-force that makes you feel four times your weight, and Space Shot that simulated less weight. We went in different simulators: MMU, the 1/6 Chair, and one that spun you in different directions for one minute. The MMU will simulate how to be unattached to the shuttle and explore space on your own. The 1/6 chair will simulate how to walk on the moon.

We also went on a rock climbing wall. I always went on the easy ones. Our team leaders took us to an IMAX movie theater where we watched two different movies. One was about space and the other was about the Blue Angels. We went on a Museum Hunt and a Rocket Hunt. We did a lot of activities: Rocket building, paper rocket building, Area 51, swimming, football, volleyball, experiments, and many more.

Our team had two missions. In the first mission I was INCO/EVA. I was in charge of the weather conditions. In the second mission, I was the commander. I was in charge of making the shuttle land safely. I didn't do a great job because I drowned the shuttle and we all died.

In one of the activities we had to make a mission patch. First, we made a design and then we wrote a summary about why we chose to go to Space Camp. Every team had to design one, and our team won. One of my favorite activities was B.E.A.M.M.E. In this activity, we did a lot of experiments. My experiment was about how micro-gravity affects the way blood gets to your body.

This trip meant a lot to me because I learned how to work with other people. I also learned how to work as a team. It affects my life because I think that I learned many new things.

I had an awesome experience and I will never forget all the fun that I had while I was at Space Camp. I will never forget all the friends I made and all the things I learned.

Thanks for this great opportunity. Now, I have an idea about space and about careers related to space, and I like them.

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