



Our students will shape and lead the future

News release

July 28, 2015



Barney Peterson returns from Space Camp

Academy puts teachers through astronaut training to immerse them in STEM experiences they share with students

Monroe Elementary School teacher, Barney Peterson, returned from [SPACE CAMP®](#) at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center full of new ideas for her students. Because of her science teaching expertise and enthusiastic willingness to try new things, she was selected for this summer's [Space Academy for Educators Program](#).

Peterson blasted into mission training to learn how to infuse her students with an insatiable curiosity about space exploration. Just as astronauts do in their training, she flew simulated space missions and ventured virtually on a rescue mission to save the International Space Station (ISS) – learning to maneuver and manage a bulky space suit

and helmet. Peterson and her team mates slept in quarters designed to replicate the experience of sleeping on the ISS. The simulators and equipment used at the camp are based upon the simulators and equipment used by NASA today.

Throughout the time at camp, she and the other teacher trainees worked with lesson plans they are bringing back to to schools across the country this fall. The lessons include current NASA content and correlate with the National Science Education Standards.

Space Camp operates year-round in Huntsville, Alabama. Nearly 700,000 trainees have graduated from Space Camp since its opening in 1982, including STS-131 astronaut Dottie Metcalf-Lindenburger and European Space Agency Astronaut Samantha Cristoforetti. Last year, children and teachers from all 50 states and 64 international locations attended Space Camp.



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For more information:

[Mary Waggoner](#), Director of Communications, 425-385-4040