

**My Space Academy Experience by Guillermo Espinosa**  
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My Space Academy experience began when I said good-bye to my parents at the Wenatchee airport, I found out that the airplane was delayed for about four hours. I finally got to Seattle and left there in about thirty minutes. We got to Dallas in about four hours and we barely made it to the Huntsville plane. After a long day, we finally got to Huntsville and I got to ride in first class.

Upon arrival in Huntsville we called our parents to tell them that we had arrived safely. I went to pick up my bag, but it wasn't there. I didn't get my bag till later that night. There at the airport, there were people from Space Camp who took us to Space Camp. When we got to Space Camp they gave us some dinner and then took us to our beds for the night. We could finally rest!

The best experience I had at the U.S. Space and Rocket Center was the missions that we had. We had two missions for the week. A mission was where half of the group (group of 16) was in the orbiter and the other half was in Mission Control. We would then do whatever they didn't when they launched the shuttle, while they orbited earth, and while they were coming back to earth. I liked it because I always thought that the astronauts had it easy, but they don't. The simulators that we rode were a new experience. We got to ride the MMU, a chair that they use for EVA in outer space; the 1/6 chair, a chair that lets you jump like if you were on the moon; the MAT, a chair that spun you around like if you were accidentally spinning in space so that the astronauts would be able to fix stuff even though they were spinning. The night telescope that we got to see through—it was cool because we got to see Jupiter and the four biggest moons. I liked it because I have always wanted to see through a telescope and see other planets and I finally got the chance to.

In summary I would say that this experience was one that will be unforgettable because it let me do stuff that I thought I would never get to do. It was helpful because it taught me stuff that I never knew like which Apollo landed on the moon first, Apollo 11, and other stuff about the Russians too. Fun! It was fun because I got to meet a lot of people from other places that I probably would have never met if it weren't for this experience.

In conclusion I would like to thank the Migrant Education Program for allowing me to participate in Space Academy 2005, my parents for letting me do this because they could of easily said no, the ESD for selecting me because they also could have just said no to my application, Mrs. Burke because she was the one who told me that the ESD was giving out these scholarships to three migrant students who excel in math and writing, Mrs. Carlson because she recommended me, Mrs. Keomple because she also recommended me, Mr. Snow because he revised my paper, and all of my teachers who helped me get to this point!