

Why I Want to go to Space Camp

My name is Joycelyn Jacobs, an eleven-year old sixth grader from the State of Maryland. Space is huge and there is a lot to learn about the world we live in and the world around us. I want to go to Space Camp to improve my team building, leadership, creative problem solving skills, and to become better at science.

I am an artist and sometimes not great at working with other people. In order to successfully complete a space mission, the effort involves a lot of teamwork. Working together on a team whether in space missions, rocket building, or science experiments will help me learn how to best work with others. Also, I may learn about my other teammates' strengths to help us succeed. Working on a team will improve my leadership skills.

When I am a team leader, I may become bossy and go a bit too far. This usually happens when the team doesn't work well together. I want to build my leadership skills and work with people who are new to a project and want to work together. I want to work on a team where everyone listens to each other and gives each person a chance to speak about what they think is needed to solve the problem.

Creative problem solving is another area I want to improve. Thinking creatively will help me think outside the box and come up with new ideas

about how to solve a task. Space is fascinating and there is a lot to learn about it, but understanding space requires research and experiments. Creative thinking will help the team improve our imagination skills. At school, I am struggling at learning science.

Therefore, the last reason I want to go to space camp is to become better at science. When doing science experiments, the instructions usually do not make sense to me. However, I have learned about the planets-- Mars, Jupiter, and Pluto, the dwarf planet. I researched Pluto in the third grade and did a report on the planet for extra credit. I learned a lot of facts about the Milky Way when I was younger. In the movie, Hidden Figures, three black women helped the Apollo 11 land on the moon which was the first space walk for the United States of America. Because I loved the movie and am very good at math, I watched the movie twice and was inspired to start making crystals in my spare time. I have a few crystals around my room and on my computer desk.

Space Camp will help me learn more about what happens on, and outside of Earth. For example, I want to learn more about how spacecrafts' are built for navigating in space, how stars form, when and how does erosion takes place, and about living in space. All these subjects and more have inspired me to apply to space camp.

Submitted by Joycelyn Jacobs