Why do I want to go to space camp? By Naashon Parker

If I’m chosen to go to Space Camp I would be able to see the technology that could take me to the depths of space. Not only will I be able to see advanced technology, but also I could be the first of my family that went to NASA. Space camp can show me what it would be like to be an astronaut. I would learn how the astronauts feel when they are collecting information in space. The information that astronauts collect is important and what students like me study in science class in school.

I recently did a project about traveling to Mars, which I presented at the Goddard Space Center in Greenbelt, Maryland. I think travelling to Mars is the next great adventure.

Doing the Mars project and attending a STEM based school has shown me the importance of science and math. To see why there can be no life on Mars you would need **science** to show the oxygen levels and how much carbon dioxide there is. To travel in space you would need **technology** to send the astronauts to Mars and back safely. And without **engineering** there would not even be a spacecraft that could take us to space. And lastly **math**, many people do not think that math is important, but you need to calculate how much fuel you will need to come back to Earth or even make a trip to space. So by coming to space camp I will make a big step and it will allow me to make many new inventions. This is why I want to go to space camp, all I want to do is learn more and increase my knowledge about NASA and get to see with the eyes of an astronaut and get to experience what that would be like for myself.