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Why I want to go to Space Camp

For years now, I have simply loved the general concept of space. From black holes to a world of friction, I have always pushed myself further to expand my knowledge so that someday even I could work in the brilliant fields of astronomy. But my experience only expands as far as the internet and factual, cold-hard book knowledge. I have always dreamed of being able to touch, feel—be in contact with the idea of space rather than reading a textbook. And that’s where Space Camp comes in.

Now, to my advantage, I have discovered a world of my dreams. In Alabama, The INSPIRE Project has joined together with the NASA Marshall Space Flight Center and US Space and Rocket Center to create a magnificent camp designed for children in middle and high school. During this 6-day period, students participate in an intensive period of space training, laboratory experiments, space science and space exploration. Instead of finding facts and data from the internet, I am able to see, feel, hear, and even taste—I can participate in the world of space.

But that is simply what the NASA Space Camp does for everybody. What it could do for me expands beyond the realms of actualities. If I went to Space Camp, I could learn how to be a pilot or a commander- I could walk like Apollo astronauts- I could float on air in the 5-Degrees of Freedom chair, and I could even tumble and spin on the Multi-Axis trainer. All of these things would help me get motivated further, and educate myself even more about astronomy and space science.

I want to, someday, be able to dig further into space—find out things that nobody else has uncovered, inspire more children to learn about the brilliance of space, and educate the world about what is out there—beyond even our knowledge. Someday, I want to go out into that separate world and see for myself the magnificence astronauts speak about. Someday, I want to be the astronomer I have always aspired to be. And I can only do that all with the experience of Space Camp.