

# GENESIS 1: SPACE MISSION DIRECTOR GUIDE

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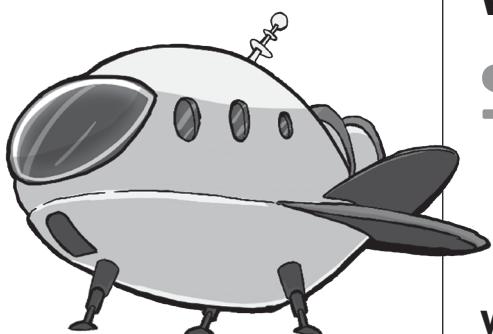
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**“SING to the LORD,  
BLESS his name;  
tell of his  
SALVATION  
from DAY to DAY...  
For all the gods of the  
peoples are  
worthless idols,  
but THE LORD  
made the  
HEAVENS.”**

*Psalm 96:2,5*



# SPACE MISSION OVERVIEW



## WELCOME TO THE MISSION!

**S**pace Mission is an incredibly rich and exciting spiritual adventure! Your **Astronauts** (students) will:

- ✧ encounter profound truths of the Word of God
- ✧ have great fun at the same time!
- ✧ want to come back every day (and year after year!)

### What to Expect from Space Mission

Children love Space Mission; adults love its impact! By God's grace, here's what it will do in the lives of your children as you lead them to love and worship Jesus Christ!:

- ✧ deepen their knowledge of and love for the Word of God
- ✧ increase their enthusiasm for memorizing Scripture
- ✧ teach them the Gospel and equip them to share it

### Overall Focus and Bible Lesson Truth Summary

Space Mission's deep Biblical content is the heart and unifying thread of this VBS. Every component of the program centers around the Bible lesson truths to draw the children into a deeper relationship with God through a fuller understanding of them.

The Bible lesson content gives purpose and meaning to each aspect of Space Mission.

Our deep desire for your Space Mission Astronauts is that they have a life-changing encounter with the Creator God of the Universe—an encounter that impacts their lives now and for eternity.

Through the Bible lessons the children learn the fundamental truths that

- ✧ all things were made by God
- ✧ people were made to know and worship God
- ✧ sin has broken our relationship with God
- ✧ Jesus came to restore that relationship
- ✧ Jesus Christ is the one true "Ark" of eternal salvation

## Format

### ■ Staff

By dividing up the activities among different leaders, Space Mission's format frees the classroom teachers to focus on getting to know their students and enables them to concentrate on discipling the children under their direct care.

### ■ Children's Grade Groups

Astronauts are divided into the following grade-group *Squadrons* for age-graded learning and activities:

- A Squadron..... Grades 5 & 6 completed
- B Squadron..... Grades 3 & 4 completed
- C Squadron..... Grades 1 & 2 completed
- D Squadron..... 4's-K completed
- E Squadron ..... 2's & 3's (usually your Staff's toddlers)

### ■ Time Frame

Space Mission is designed to be a 5-day, 3-hours-a-day program, ending with a final closing program celebration. With minor modifications, it can also be used in a variety of other ways.

### ■ Music

There are so many beautifully written hymns that point to the truths presented in Space Mission. Suggested hymns are included, but please consider choosing from the songs your church family enjoys and the children likely know or will sing again. Likewise, there are many great artists who have recorded songs for children about creation. Some suggestions are on the online portal. Pray that the Lord would show you clear direction for the words your children need to be learning and singing at Space Mission.

“The universe is an explosion of God’s

**Glory. Perfect**

**goodness,**

**beauty, and love**

**radiate from God**

and draw creatures to ever increasingly share in the

Godhead’s

joy and delight....

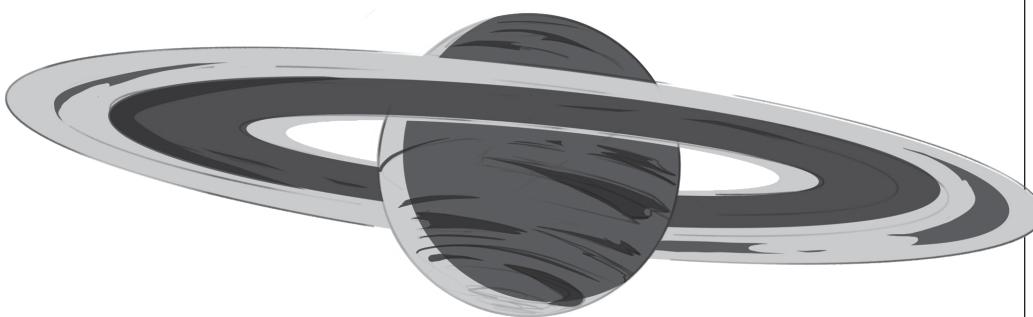
The ultimate end of creation, then, is union in love between God and loving creatures.”

George Marsden, *Jonathan Edwards: A Life*, pp 462-63

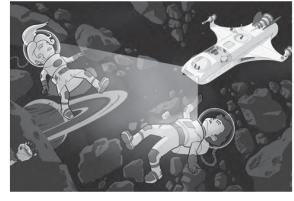
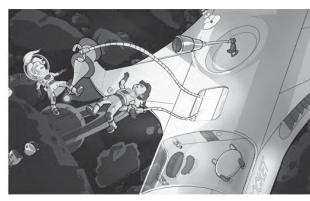
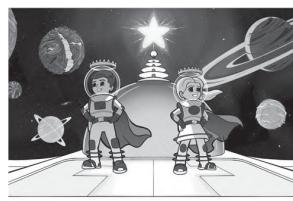


## Space Mission Terminology

Space Mission's lingo, which helps set the atmosphere of fun and adventure for the children, will be introduced and explained as you read through this guide. See page 16 for a full glossary of terms. We encourage you to use them throughout your planning process, while training your staff, and especially throughout VBS itself.



# OVERVIEW CHART

<b>Day</b>	<b>Blast Off Opening Assembly</b> <i>see Mission Control Assemblies Manual &amp; Gospel Presentation Manual</i>	<b>Daily Bible Reading</b> <i>see Logbook insert pages</i>
<b>Day 1</b>	<b>Skit Plot Summary:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>While preparing for the competition, Headstrong and Goodman meet for the first time.</li> <li>Headstrong proves himself to be a troublemaker when he teases Speed Zero 7 and detaches the robot's external movement circuit.</li> <li>Commander Ramjet explains the competition.</li> </ul>	<i>portions of Genesis 1 and 2</i>  <i>Hebrews 11:3</i>
<b>Day 2</b>	<b>Skit Plot Summary:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Headstrong and Goodman return from the observatory and share their findings with Commander Ramjet and Speed Zero 7. Goodman enthusiastically describes the wondrous celestial bodies and marvels at God's creation, while Headstrong is unaffected and unenthused.</li> <li>Commander Ramjet hands out flying instruction manuals to Headstrong and Goodman in preparation for the next contest. When the others exit, Headstrong throws away his manual.</li> </ul>	<b>Gospel Presentation:</b>  <b>ILLUSTRATION 1</b> <i>"So God created man in his own image, in the image of God he created him; male and female he created them."</i> <i>—Genesis 1:27</i>  <b>In the beginning God made people happy and holy</b>
<b>Day 3</b>	<b>Skit Plot Summary:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Speed Zero 7 returns from deep space, shaken by his experience. Headstrong refuses to apologize.</li> <li>Goodman conducts an extra credit experiment and wins Commander Ramjet's approval. Headstrong is clearly jealous of Goodman.</li> </ul>	<b>Gospel Presentation:</b>  <b>ILLUSTRATION 2</b> <i>"There is not a righteous man on earth who does good and never sins."</i> <i>—Ecclesiastes 7:20</i> <b>All people are sinners</b>   <b>ILLUSTRATION 3</b> <i>"There is a way that seems right to a man, but its end is the way to death."</i> <i>—Proverbs 14:12</i> <i>"...so death spread to all men because all sinned."</i> <i>—Romans 5:12</i> <b>Sin turns us away from God and leads to death</b>
<b>Day 4</b>	<b>Skit Plot Summary:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Headstrong arrives alone.</li> <li>Commander Ramjet and Speed Zero 7 inquire about Headstrong's health after drinking the Toxic Tang and discuss the commander's wire cutters and fiber optics cable, which recently went missing.</li> <li>When Goodman fails to arrive, Commander Ramjet sends Speed Zero 7 to look for the cadet. Speed Zero 7 finds Goodman tied up in the observatory with Commander Ramjet's fiber optics cable. The commander's wire cutters are found on Headstrong's person.</li> <li>Commander Ramjet gives Headstrong one more chance to prove himself worthy before facing disqualification. Goodman is clearly upset with Headstrong for tying him up.</li> </ul>	<b>Gospel Presentation:</b>  <b>ILLUSTRATION 4</b> <i>"...for the evil man has no future..."</i> <i>—Proverbs 24:20a</i> <b>There is no way to rescue ourselves from sin and death</b>   <b>ILLUSTRATION 5</b> <i>"But God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us."</i> <i>—Romans 5:8</i> <b>In order to save us, God sent Jesus to die in our place</b>
<b>Day 5</b>	<b>Skit Plot Summary:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commander Ramjet, Speed Zero 7, and Headstrong sit in the med bay at the unconscious Goodman's bedside.</li> <li>Headstrong does not understand why Goodman would sacrifice himself to save Headstrong after Headstrong tried to sabotage him.</li> <li>Commander Ramjet and Speed Zero 7 share the Gospel with Headstrong. Headstrong repents and accepts Jesus Christ as his Lord and Savior.</li> <li>Goodman wakes up. Headstrong apologizes to Goo man, and the two cadets reconcile.</li> </ul>	<b>Gospel Presentation:</b>  <b>ILLUSTRATION 6</b> <i>"Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life. He does not come into judgment, but has passed from death to life."</i> <i>—John 5:24</i> <b>When we believe and repent, we receive Eternal Life</b>

<b>Space Bible Lessons</b> <i>see Bible Lesson Curriculum</i> <i>Storyteller: Commander Cosmos/Corona</i>	<b>Re-Entry Closing Assembly</b> <i>see Mission Control Assemblies Manual</i>
<p><b>Crowned with Glory and Honor</b> • <i>What does it mean that God is the Creator?</i></p> <p><b>Main Theme</b> God created all things out of nothing by the power of His word. Because of that we need to listen to Him, we can know that He made the world to work following His rules, and we can know for sure that what God has declared “good” is valuable</p>	<p><b>Contest #1:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contest #1: Equipment Collection! Headstrong and Goodman must collect a captain’s most important equipment pieces. Headstrong grabs a variety of gadgets, while Goodman chooses only the Bible. Goodman wins the competition.</li> <li>Commander Ramjet and Goodman share the importance of the Bible with Headstrong. Headstrong is skeptical.</li> </ul>
<p><b>God Made Me to Know Him and Be With Him</b> • <i>What does it mean that I am made in God’s image?</i></p> <p><b>Main Theme:</b> God created me and all people in His own image to personally respond to Him in love and worship by resting in His completed work and joyfully working to extend His good rule over all of Creation.</p>	<p><b>Contest #2:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Contest #2: Flying Challenge! Headstrong and Goodman must each remotely pilot a small space pod with a robot inside. Headstrong pushes the wrong buttons and accidentally sends his space pod - with Speed Zero 7 inside - into deep space. Goodman wins again.</li> <li>Headstrong lies to Commander Ramjet and does not confess his guilt in Speed Zero 7’s disappearance.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Silence the Enemy</b> • <i>What is God going to do about the evil in and around me?</i></p> <p><b>Main Theme:</b> Because Adam and Eve chose to disobey God, I cannot know or please God through my own efforts. But God is gracious and merciful, and He is determined not to let His children be lost in sin.</p>	<p><b>Contest #3:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Geo-Spatial Lab! Headstrong and Goodman are placed in a beautiful room with fun snacks, games, etc. Commander Ramjet gives them specific instructions not to enter the chemical lab. Despite Goodman’s warnings, Headstrong enters the chemical lab and accidentally drinks Toxic Tang. Headstrong becomes sick, and Speed Zero 7 must give him an antidote. Goodman wins the competition again.</li> <li>Commander Ramjet discusses temptation with the cadets and the importance of the Bible in withstanding it.</li> </ul>
<p><b>You Have Ordained Praise</b> • <i>How can I please God?</i></p> <p><b>Main Theme:</b> Because of Adam and Eve’s sin, we all have “Cain” hearts filled with pride and self-reliance. Abel gives us a picture of what it is to humbly repent of our sin and believe in the perfect Lamb of God who alone can change our hearts and make us right with God. I was made to glorify God but because of my sin nature, I am like Cain filled with pride and self-reliance. Yet by God’s grace, I can please Him like Abel by humbly repenting of my sin and putting my faith in Jesus who alone can change my heart and make me right with God.</p>	<p><b>Contest #4:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Geo-Spatial Stabilizer Workshop! Headstrong and Goodman must each build a tricron geo-spatial stabilizer. Headstrong cuts corners to finish faster than Goodman. Goodman recognizes Headstrong’s error and tries to stop Headstrong from testing the defective tricron. Ignoring Goodman, Headstrong tests the tricron, and Goodman pushes Headstrong out of the way before the tricron can affect him. However, the tricron electrocutes Goodman, and he collapses, unconscious.</li> <li>Headstrong freaks out as Commander Ramjet and Speed Zero 7 transport Goodman to the med bay.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Mindful of Us</b> • <i>How can I be saved from God’s just wrath?</i></p> <p><b>Main Theme:</b> Just as God gave Noah the Ark to rescue him from God’s just wrath, He has given Jesus as my only safe place to escape the judgement I deserve for my sin. Only in Jesus can I be restored to a loving relationship with my wonderful Creator and Heavenly Father.</p>	<p><b>Contest #5:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>It’s the final ceremony of the Intergalactic Space Center Captain Competition!</li> <li>Goodman receives the title of Captain. Commander Ramjet gives Headstrong another chance to compete next year.</li> <li>The skit ends with Commander Ramjet, Speed Zero 7, and Goodman encouraging Headstrong in his new faith in Christ.</li> </ul>

# OVERVIEW CHART

Day	Recreation see Recreation Packet	Crafts see Craft Curriculum
Stardate 1	Circle Launch Cosmic Clumps Countdown	<b>2's-K:</b> Creation Placemat  <b>Grades 1-6:</b> Space Cap
Stardate 2	Flight Fitness Relay Asteroid Attack The Blob	<b>2's-Grade 6:</b> "God Made Us to Worship Him" Frame
Stardate 3	Ring Around the Moon Duck Duck Meteor Drop the Spaceship Meteor Jump Relay Hook-up Tag	<b>2's-K:</b> "Here's My Heart" Bracelet  <b>Grades 1-6:</b> "Cleanse my Heart" Necklace
Stardate 4	Drop the Spaceship Kick Ball Orbit Meteor Ball	<b>2's-K:</b> Space Mission Suitcase  <b>Grades 1-6:</b> Cross Wall Hanging
Stardate 5	Laser Limbo Follow the Commander Capture the Aliens Squadron Scavenger Hunt	<b>2's &amp; 3's:</b> "Safe with Jesus" Picture  <b>4's-Grade 6:</b> Scripture Spaceship

**4's-K Lesson Handwork**  
see Craft Curriculum

In God's Hands



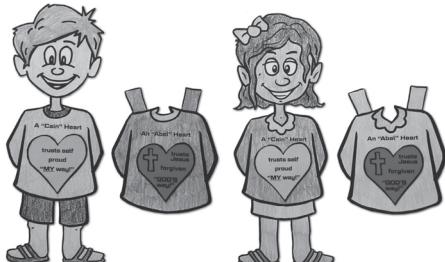
Tree of Life



Jesus Frees Us from Sin



Jesus Makes Hearts New



Safe with Jesus



**Snack Ideas**  
see Director Guide

Outer space Jell-o®



Out-of-this-World  
Cheese Snack



Orbit Crunch

Rice Krispie® Shuttles



Planet  
Pizzas



Galaxy  
Sandwiches

Rainbow Promise  
Cupcakes



Constellation  
Cupcakes

# A TYPICAL SPACE MISSION DAY

Each Space Mission day generally includes the following components for Grades 1–6. Times listed reflect a schedule for churches with two or more Storytellers, allowing for Bible lesson times to overlap for different grade levels. 4's-K and 2's & 3's Squadrons follow a different schedule. See pages 21-22 for sample schedules.

*(shaded areas indicate rotating activities)*

Activity	Time	Description
<b>Staff Prayer</b>	Pre-Start	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Prayer team leads those who are available in a time of prayer.</li></ul>
<b>Registration</b>	Pre-Start	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Registration team registers arriving children.</li><li>• Squadron staff greet and welcome children and parents; direct children into Mission Control (assembly room).</li></ul>
<b>Blast Off</b> <i>(opening assembly in Mission Control)</i>	25 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Star Commander directs lively assembly that includes singing offering, skits, <b>Salvation Flight Plan</b> (daily portion of the Gospel presentation), and <b>Flight Instructions</b> (daily announcements).</li></ul>
<b>Mission Log</b> <i>(Logbook work in Space Station classrooms)</i>	30 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Astronauts go to their <b>Space Stations</b> (classrooms) and meet with their Squadron Teachers and Assistants where they begin their day together, practice Scripture memory verses, review Bible Exploration (daily Bible reading in Training Log), discuss opportunities to serve others, and receive stickers.</li></ul>
<b>Bible Lesson</b> <i>(Bible Lesson at Bible Lesson Site)</i>	20 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Astronauts head to the Bible Lesson Site where costumed Storytellers specifically chosen for that task alone present the <b>Bible Lesson</b>. What the children hear during the Bible lesson is the central focus of Space Mission and the foundation of all that happens during the week!</li></ul>
<b>Mission Log</b> <i>(Logbook work in Space Stations)</i>	20 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Astronauts return to their Space Stations meet with their Squadron Teachers and Assistants to discuss and complete the Logbook Bible lesson application worksheets.</li></ul>
<b>Stellar Sports</b> <i>(Recreation)</i>	20 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Astronauts go to Recreation Site for theme-related games.</li></ul>
<b>Celestial Snacks</b>	10 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Children head to Snack Site for theme-related snacks.</li></ul>
<b>Cosmic Crafts</b> <i>(Craft Site)</i>	20 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Astronauts go to craft site for theme related crafts.</li></ul>
<b>Re-Entry</b> <i>(closing assembly in Mission Control)</i>	30 minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Re-Entry closes out the Astronauts' day with all Squadrons gathering in Mission Control.</li></ul>

