TO INFINITY AND BEYOND..

WHAT IS SPACE?

Space holds many secrets. It contains places where human beings can be stretched into spaghetti shapes, or boiled, or frozen solid: that's why astronauts wear protective clothing in space. Welcome to a mysterious and endlessly fascinating world.

SPACE STATIONS

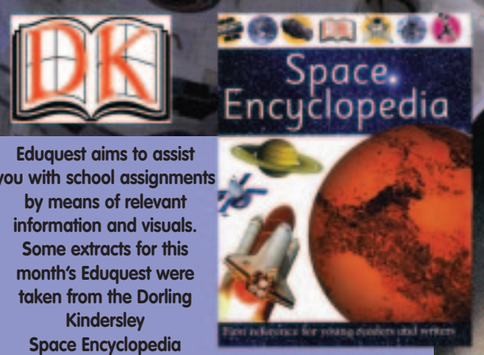
There have been ten space stations since 1971. They include:

- Salyut 1, launched in 1971 and in orbit for 175 days (of which 24 were occupied).
- Salyut 7, launched in 1982 and in orbit for 3216 days (of which 816 were manned).
- Skylab, launched in May 1973 by the USA. It burned up in 1979.
- Mir, built in space by the Soviet Union, beginning of 1986. It fell into the atmosphere in March 2001.

FUN FACTS
If you stood on Mars, you would see a pink sky.

FUN FACTS
Meteor showers happen many times a year, but reoccur at the same time each year.

FUN FACTS
It takes roughly five and a half hours for the Sun's light to reach Pluto.



Eduquest aims to assist you with school assignments by means of relevant information and visuals. Some extracts for this month's Eduquest were taken from the Dorling Kindersley Space Encyclopedia
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WHAT IS A SPACE STATION?

It's a space laboratory that orbits Earth, operated by crews of astronauts who take turns living and working on it. Each crew stays for several weeks or months. Occasionally, an astronaut has stayed a whole year.

LIVING IN SPACE

A bed on the wall, baby wipes for a wash, footholds and edible toothpaste! Life on a space station is very different from life on Earth. Astronauts need to do everything that you do. They eat, exercise, sleep, work and play, but they have to do all these things in a home without gravity. Astronauts' muscles don't work very hard in zero gravity so they quickly lose strength. For that reason, astronauts exercise for about two hours a day

A TASTY LUNCH...

Food is supplied in sealed packets and some of it is dehydrated. That means that water has to be added before the food can be eaten.

WE LIKE TO KEEP CLEAN, TOO!

Astronauts use combs and toothbrushes and toothpaste. But, the toothpaste doesn't froth, and gets swallowed. Wet wipes are useful for a speedy wash.

TIME FOR BED

Most of the crew use sleeping bags which have to be strapped to the walls of the space station. The bag holds astronauts' arms in place; otherwise they would float above their head.

WORKING IN SPACE

We have all seen workers on a construction site, hammering and drilling. Imagine a construction site floating in space high above the Earth's surface.

IS IT WARM TODAY?

In orbit, the strong sunshine heats astronauts up. Surprisingly, it's difficult to lose heat in space, so spacesuits have to include a refrigeration unit!

SLOW DOWN

Astronauts have to work slower than construction workers on earth. If they twist a bolt too quickly, they will send themselves into a spin.

MAKE ITV LARGER

Space tools are extra large so that austranouts can grab them in their bulky gloves. They also have to be tied to the astronout to prevent them from floating away.

FUN FACTS
The word "comet" means: Long-haired star.

FUN FACTS
Eva stands for: **Extra Vehicular Activity o**r simply space walking.

FUN FACTS
Experts believe that the Universe is just under 14 BILLION light years old,