

# Scout Camp-Ins

**Leader/Chaperone Briefing**  
(Please make copies and hand out to all adults)

## BEGIN YOUR COUNTDOWN!

Welcome to the exciting world of space adventure! Our creative Camp Crew has prepared this "Group Briefing" to help you plan for your overnight stay at Space Center Houston.

**Read it carefully. Make copies and distribute to all the adult chaperones attending. Most of all, save it somewhere where you can find it again!**

We hope this briefing will answer most of your questions and calm any fears you have about sleeping in space. At least you won't have to worry about lions and tigers and bears! *And it's air conditioned, too!*  
10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1... LIFT-OFF!



## MISSION PLANNING CHECKLIST

### What to Bring:

- Sleeping bag and a pillow: You will be sleeping on the floor. Camping mats are permitted to place under your sleeping bag, but **no air mattresses or cots\***.
- Minimum of toiletries: toothbrush & toothpaste, comb, or hairbrush - don't worry, our camp site has plenty of toilet paper. Just like the Space Shuttle, we do not have shower facilities.
- Pajamas: Keep in mind when selecting sleepwear that Space Center Houston is a secure facility. Security cameras are located throughout the building (restrooms excluded). Sweats or shorts and a t-shirt make the best pajamas.
- Change of clothes: Camp-In t-shirts make a great outfit for your 2nd day visit.
- Only Leaders/Chaperones are encouraged to bring small flashlights.
- Don't forget your camera! Pictures in front of the shuttle make great keepsakes!

**Cool Idea:** Place all your gear into one bag for easy storage and carrying. Large trash bags work great. Mark your bag with stickers or flags (no paint please). Plain trash bags and paper sacks all look the same! It might be a good idea to mark your group's bags in a similar manner to ensure that they are always kept together. Backpacks or duffle bags can be used, but we ask that they not be carried through the center during operating hours.

**What to Wear:** Dress comfortably. Scout uniforms are not required. Wearing them is up to the group. Just remember, like space, Space Center Houston can be very warm or very cold. It may be a good idea to bring along a sweater or light jacket, or dress in layers.

**Optional:** Although no extra money is needed for the Camp-In, many campers bring spending money for the Space Trader gift shop. A special 10% discount is offered to all campers & chaperones.

## WHAT NOT TO BRING

Campers **may not** bring food/snacks, flashlights, radios, portable music players, hair dryers, or other electrical appliances. These items will not be allowed in the facility.\* **Due to space limitations, twin-size cots or air mattresses are allowed only for adults with a medical reason. Sleeping bag mats are permitted.**

## UPON LANDING

**Friday camp-In:** unload your gear. (Sept.-May)

**Friday Camp-In:** leave your gear in the car. You will get it later. ( June- August)

**Saturday Camp-In:** leave your gear in the car. You will get it later.

Check-in will begin at 5:00 p.m. (look for the education cart set up next to the ticket booths).  
6:00 - Dinner will be served.

Only leaders need to report to the registration area. Please know the number of scouts and adults in your group.

As an incentive, we are offering **one** camp patch to each registered group leader that arrives by 5:30 p.m. The Camp-In will begin **promptly** at 6:00

## MORE INFO

Security has been tightened. All bags are subject to search.

Space Center Houston will provide team badges.

Leaders/chaperones are expected to **stay with the group** and interact with and **monitor the behavior** of campers as well as assist our counselors with the activities.

All Camp-In activities will focus on helping the campers meet various badge requirements.

Center free time is from 5:00-6:00 p.m. and after the tram tour on the second day.



## SPACETRADER ★ GIFT SHOP

Campers will receive a 10% discount on all purchases. Coupons will be given to your leader at check in. Coupons are only valid for the weekend of the camp.



## CAMP-IN LINGO

### Welcome Show

A rousing welcome to Space Center Houston! You will meet the camp instructor and be briefed about the Camp-In.



### Instructor

The knowledgeable person that will be leading your group throughout your Camp-In experience.

### Emergency #

To be reached by a family member in the event of an emergency while at a camp-in, they can call **281-244-2160** and give your name and troop/pack number. You will be located immediately.

### Information Desk

Located at the front of Space Center Houston, across from the gift shop.

### Lost and Found

All items will be placed at the information desk.

### The Next Morning

Wake up will be done to music. After you wake up, take all your gear out to your car **BEFORE** you eat breakfast.

Visit us on  
the web!

[www.spacecenter.org/  
ScoutCampIns.html](http://www.spacecenter.org/ScoutCampIns.html)

## SCHEDULE ... What are we doing?

### The Fun Stuff!

The expedition into space is challenging, exciting, and moves very quick. Activities are geared to the age of the campers and are designed to meet specific requirements of each camp.

- Show your Camp-In conformation at the toll plaza for free parking.
- An itinerary of the nights will be provided for leaders.
- Free time is from 5:00-6:00 pm and after the tram tour the next day.
- If you are unable to stay the next day you will be given a ticket which is good within the next year.

### Eating

- Dinner is at 6:00 pm
- The dinner includes: chicken fried chicken, mashed potatoes with gravy, salad, rolls, and banana pudding. A snack of pretzels and juice will be served later in the evening.

**NOTE: No outside food or drink is permitted in Space Center Houston, unless needed for medical reasons. If you have a camper with special needs, please contact us and we can arrange other meal options at 281-244-2131.**

## SLEEPING ARRANGEMENTS

You and your group will be sleeping among the space capsules and exhibits in Starship Gallery, one of our theaters, or among other attractions.

### Setting up the Camp Site:

- Your instructors will let you know where to set up your gear.
- Keep in mind that the camp site has tight sleeping quarters when rolling out your sleeping bags.
- Inform your group that each camper must be accompanied by a chaperone when going to the restroom after lights out.

**Food, drinks, gum, candy, etc. are NOT ALLOWED at the camp site!**

### Lights Out: 11:30 p.m.

**MAKE IT EASY ON YOUR FELLOW LEADERS/CHAPERONES. BE SURE YOUR GROUP ISN'T THE PROBLEM. IF EVERYONE COOPERATES, EVERYONE WILL HAVE A PLEASANT TIME.**



### Who can come to the Camp-In:

This Camp-In is reserved for the scouts and their leaders/chaperones only.

- Parents of opposite gender will be sleeping in a separate room.
- Second day \$10 tickets are available for family or other scout members. Tickets are available for purchase the evening of your Scout Camp-In.

### Cancellation Policy:

Cancellations or reductions in the number of scouts are permitted until 6 weeks before the Camp-In. Cancellations and reductions must be in writing. They may be e-mailed or faxed. Full refunds will be issued until 6 weeks before the Camp-In. **After this point, no refunds will be given.**



# Top Ten Questions About Scout Camp-Ins at SCH

## 10. What are Scout Camp-Ins?

Space Center Houston's Scout Camp-Ins gives your scout an out of this world opportunity to explore space science. Scouts will conduct hands-on activities to help them earn their space and science related badges. All Camp-Ins include: dinner, an evening of activities, snack, a camp site inside the center, breakfast, a large screen film in our Northrop Grumman theater, a private tram tour, and 2<sup>nd</sup> day admission to Space Center Houston's one of a kind exhibits.

## 9. Will we see an Astronaut or will one talk to our group?

Astronauts look like you and me. You never know if one might be walking around the center during your next day visit. Astronauts have very busy schedules and their time is valuable. Because of this, and the fact that we hold camp-ins just about every weekend, we are unable to have an Astronaut talk to your group. We do provide the troop leader the address where your scouts can write to an Astronaut.

## 8. Will we "tour" Space Center Houston?

No, this overnight experience is not a guided tour of the facility. We use the atmosphere, and the various attractions/exhibits that correlate with the theme of the evening. Because so many activities are packed into a Camp-In, the counselors keep a tight schedule. **Free time in the center is given from 5:00-6:00 p.m. and as part of your next day visit, which is included in the registration fees. If you are unable to take the tram tour and stay in the center the next day you will receive a ticket to return any day within the year.**

## 7. Is there 24-hour security available?

Yes! Safety is Space Center Houston's number one concern. Security personnel are at each Camp-In around-the-clock, as well as patrolling the outside area. After lights out, if their assistance is needed please go to the information desk and dial 2160.

## 6. Is there a First Aid Facility?

Although we will provide a first aid kit, **each group is responsible for a First Aid Responder being present.** In case of an injury or illness, the group leader/chaperone alerts the instructor. The staff members in charge of the event will assess the situation. The group leader must have all of the participants' (campers and adults) medical forms readily available in case of an emergency. You may use Space Center Houston's medical form or the medical form you use for other troop/pack activities. If an incident should arise, Space Center Houston's staff will get the medical form from you and make a copy for our files. **Space Center Houston will not distribute any medications or treatment to campers. That is the responsibility of the campers group First Aid Responder.**

## 5. What exactly are my campers paying for?

An awesome experience, of course! Many others are dying to "spend the night" at Space Center Houston, but we only reserve this experience for the boy scouts, cub scouts & girl scouts at this time. Not only do the campers work on their badge requirements, but also they experience hands on activities not available to the general public.

## 4. Can I bring my family?

Only registered scouts and their leaders/chaperones attend a Camp-In. **Chaperones are not permitted to bring any children who are not registered nor of the designated age level or gender for Camp-In. You or the leader may purchase \$10 discounted tickets the evening of the camp-in for family members (3 and under free). Tickets are not available in the morning. Family members should meet you at the front of Space Center Houston at 8:45 a.m. (late arrivals will miss the tram tour).**

## 3. What are a leader's/chaperone's responsibilities during a Camp-In?

Space Center Houston's policy requires that all campers be under the direct supervision of an adult leader at all times. The counselors really need your help with maintaining discipline/attention, staying with your team, Upbeat attitude (the campers mirror you), and helping the campers with some activities

## 2. Whose responsibility is it to purchase merit badges for the Camp-In?

Because the troops/dens are from various councils, it is the leader's responsibility to purchase the badges from a scout store. As a troop/den leader, it is your discretion as to how you want to award badges to your scouts. Some leaders like to take an activity a step further or require the scouts to discuss the activities with the group. It is your call.

## 1. How much sleep will we get?

Expect as much sleep as you would get from a slumber party with 300 people. Because of our time constraints and the badge requirement activities, we take the scouts from Mach 25 to zero in approximately 6-7 hours. Sleep time is anywhere from 5-6 hours. **Lights out will be around 11:30 p.m. This aspect of the Camp-In program will not change! Please understand.**

## One more thing you might like to know...

Camp-In t-shirts and patches are available for purchase. You will receive an order form with your final confirmation. Check them out on our website at [www.spacecenter.org/ScoutCampinTshirts.html](http://www.spacecenter.org/ScoutCampinTshirts.html)

# Badge Requirements filled by Space Center Houston Scout Camp-In.

## Girl Scouts

### **Brownie: Try-it Space Explorer & Movers Badge**

Space Explorers  
The Night Sky  
Ready, Set, Jet!  
Star Maker  
Movers  
Balloon rocket (Modified version)

### **Junior : Aerospace Badge**

Test Flight  
Up, Up, and Away!  
Think Sky High  
Shoot for the Stars  
Women Flying Sky High  
Space Flight Spinoffs

### **Amb./Sr./Cadette: Space Exploration Badge**

#### **Skill Builders**

Visit a museum or other facility that had an exhibit, display, or presentation on aerospace, astronomy, or related fields. (2)  
Visit NASA and, if possible, view the launching of a space vehicle. Develop a space exploration resource file. (6)

#### **Technology**

Design a human space colony. (3)  
Construct a "Flying Object"- something that is capable of flight. (5)

#### **Service Projects**

Develop a booklet or display that highlights women who have played an important role in the history of flight and space exploration. This will be take home information. (2)  
Help Brownie and Junior girl scouts learn about space exploration. (3) We will teach them an activity they can do with brownies.

#### **Career Exploration**

Plan to attend a "Space Camp" to get more hands-on Experience. (2)

## Cub Scouts

### **Wolves: Astronomy Pin and Belt Loop**

Belt Loop  
Demonstrate how to focus a simple telescope  
Draw a diagram of our solar system-identify the planets and other objects  
Explain terms like planet, star, solar system, galaxy, and the Milk Way  
Academics Pin  
Draw a diagram of a telescope and explain how it works  
Explain how to use a star map  
Draw and Label 5 constellations. See if you can locate any of them in the sky using a star map  
Find the North Star. Explain its importance.  
Learn about some early space missions.  
Locate 3 major observatories on a map. Explain why these locations are good for astronomy.

### **Webelos: Scientist Pin**

Read Bernoulli's Principle. Show how it works  
Read Pascal's Law. Tell about some inventions that use Pascal law.  
Read Newton's first law of motion. Show in three different ways how inertia works.  
Show the effects of atmospheric, air, and water pressure.  
Explain how you use your center of gravity to keep your balance. Show three different balancing tricks. (Activity provided for home completion)  
Show three different ways how your eyes work together. Show what is meant by optical illusion. (Activity provided for home completion)  
Explain how crystals are formed. Make some. (Activity provided for home completion)

### **Bears: Space (Arrow Point Trail)**

Identify two constellations and the North Star  
Build a model of a rocket or a satellite.  
Make a pinhole planetarium and show three constellations.  
Read and talk about at least one man-made satellite and one natural one.  
Find a picture of another planet in our solar system. Explain how it is different than earth.

### **Boy Scouts: Space Exploration Badge**

Tell the purpose of space exploration (1, a-c)  
Build, launch and recover a model rocket. Identify and explain the parts of a rocket (Modified version) (3, a-i)  
Discuss and demonstrate the law of action/reaction and how rocket engines work (4, a-d)  
Discuss unmanned and manned space exploration mission and an early manned mission (5, a)  
Design an inhabited base located on the moon or mars. (7)  
Describe the purpose and operation of the International Space Station. (6,b)  
Information will be given to complete requirements 2 and 8.