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# St John's TEDS Day Together Everyone Doing Science

Space Mission - Building the  
ultimate Space colony

Thursday 7th November 2024

# The Great Space Mission – Building the Ultimate Space Colony!



**St John's Space Research Teams.  
We need your help!  
We think we have found a new habitable  
planet and we need you to help us test  
different materials so that we can try to  
build a new colony.  
Are you able to help us?**



**Research Teams are you ready to help the astronauts  
set off on their pioneering journey ?**

Which type of enquiry will your class use?



## EYFS Research Team

### **Challenge:**

"Which material will make the astronauts' bed comfortable and cosy?"



# Year 1 Research Team

## **Challenge:**

"Which material makes the best space suit for protection against space rain?"



# Hedgehog Research Team

**Challenge:** "Which material is strong enough to build a bridge over the space craters and riverbeds?"



## Otters Research Team

**Challenge:** "Which type of rock will be the best to build strong space mission base on the planet and why? "



# Owl Research Team

**Challenge: "Which materials should we use for the space windows so we can see the stars?"**



# Fox Research Team

**Challenge:** "Which material will keep the astronauts' drinks warm during the freezing space nights?"



# Hawk Research Team

**Challenge:** "Which size of wheel will help the astronauts' rovers move smoothly over different surfaces?"





**Welcome back to SJS Mission  
Control**

# What did we find out?

Which of these enquiry types did you use in your science investigations today?



Which skills did you use?

asking questions

making predictions

setting up tests

evaluating

observing and measuring recording data

interpreting and communicating results

# Reception :

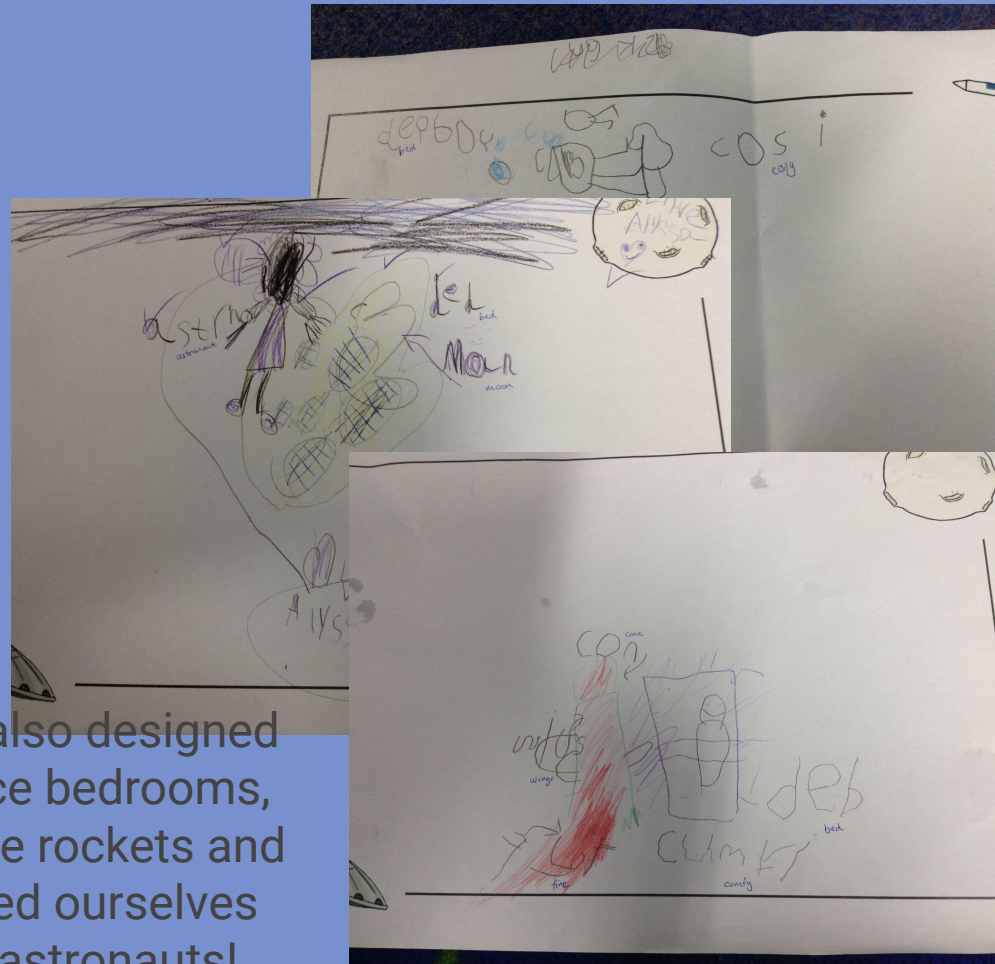


We watched a video of an astronaut sleeping in space and found out that they sleep standing up because there is no gravity! We tested different materials and found that some were too itchy, too rusty, too hard, too thin, too cold - the sleeping bag was just right! It was warm, soft, thick and comfortable.





We also designed space bedrooms, made rockets and turned ourselves into astronauts!



# Year 1:

We tested if materials were waterproof by pouring water over them.

We found that only the plastic apron, foil and foil wrap were waterproof!

We decided that the foil wrap would be most suitable because it is waterproof and thick so it is warm.



## Year 2 :

We tested different materials to see which would be the strongest for bridges in space. We did let the materials bend a lot, but we did not test our bridges to destruction as we thought this would not be safe!



The paper couldn't even hold 50g, but when we folded it, the paper bridge became stronger!



The metal bridge was the strongest bridge, but we were all felt a bit scared at how much it was bending after adding 2800g to the middle of the bridge!



# Year 3

## Conclusion

- Granite was a harder rock and chalk was a softer rock.
- The rocks that let water through and were permeable were chalk and limestone.
- No rocks floated so they all had a high density.
- Granite and marble had crystals present.

We concluded that we should build the base out of either **marble or granite**, as they are durable, impermeable and had a high density.

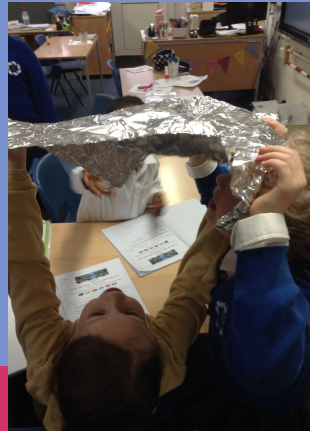
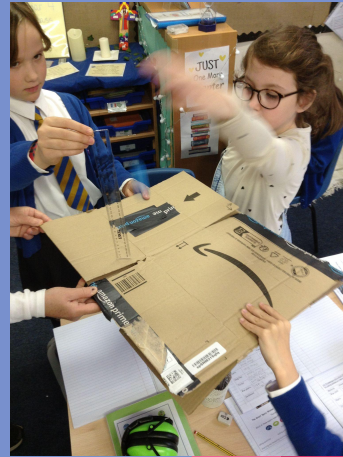
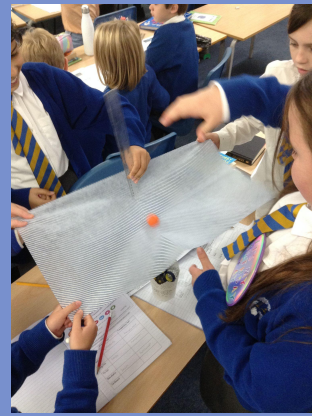


## Year 4 :

After discussing what qualities a window in our spaceship would need we decided to conduct two tests on our materials.

1. Strength test: Does the material protect us from impact? We dropped a small ball from 30 cm above each material and observed whether it bent, broke or withstood the impact.
2. Transparency test: Can we see the stars through the window? We held each material up to the light and tested whether we could see it. We decided whether the material was transparent, translucent or opaque.

We tested cardboard, plastic, tin foil, cling film, a blue cloth and some blue plastic.




# Year 4 results:

We concluded that plastic would be the best material for the space windows because it was transparent and strong.

Conclusion:  
 We found that the best material was plastic because you could see through it clearly and it was very strong and the worst one was tin foil because it ripped and you couldn't see through it and the one in the middle was blue plastic because you couldn't see through it.

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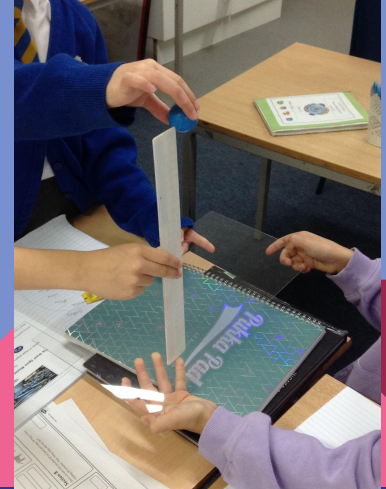
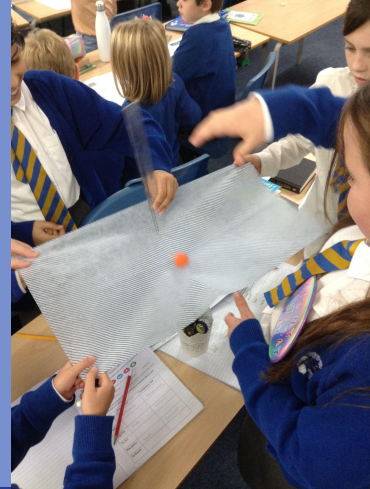
Which of these enquiry types did you use in your science investigations today?

Which skills did you use?

asking questions  making predictions  setting up tests  evaluating   
 observing and measuring recording data  interpreting and communicating results

L.O. To investigate and evaluate different materials to determine which is best for making windows on a space base.

Material	Strength test	Transparency test
Blue cloth	did badly	transparent
Plastic	Withstood impact	transparent
Cling film	did badly	transparent
Tin foil	folded and bent and ripped	opaque
Blue plastic	It bent and folded	transparent
Cardboard	Withstood impact	opaque



# "Which material will keep the astronauts' drinks warm during the freezing space nights?"

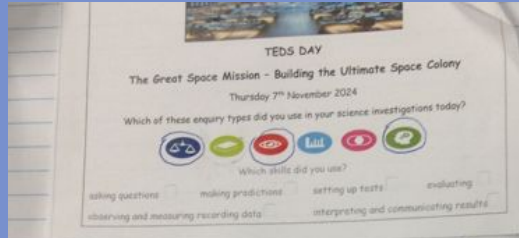


We wrapped the cups in different materials . We use thermometers to test the water over time .



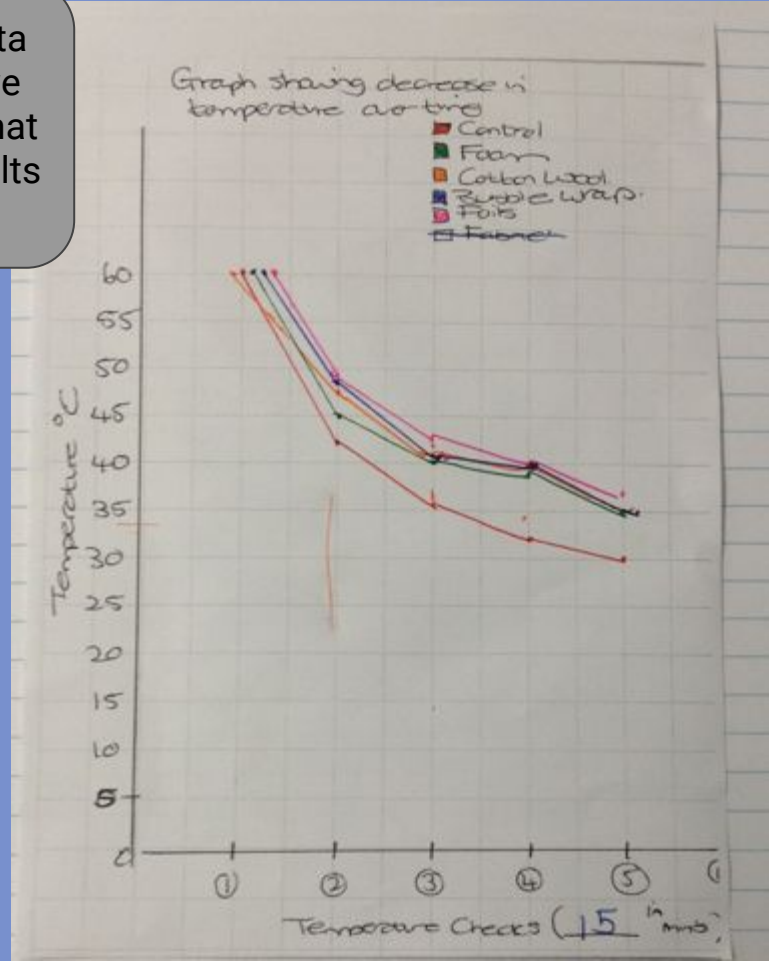
# Year 5 results:

We presented our data in a table and then we used line graphs so that we could see our results clearly.



Which materials will keep the astronaut's drinks warm during the freezing space nights?

Cups	Temp check 1	Temp check 2	Temp check 3	Temp check 4	Temp check 5
Cardboard	60°C	43°C	36°C	33°C	30°C
Sponge/foam	60°C	45°C	40°C	38°C	35°C
Cotton wool	60°C	47°C	41°C	39°C	35°C
Bubble wrap	60°C	48°C	41°C	39°C	35°C
Foil sheet	60°C	48°C	43°C	40°C	37°C
Fabric	60°C	X	X	X	X





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Which of these enquiry types did you use in your science investigations today?



Which skills did you use?

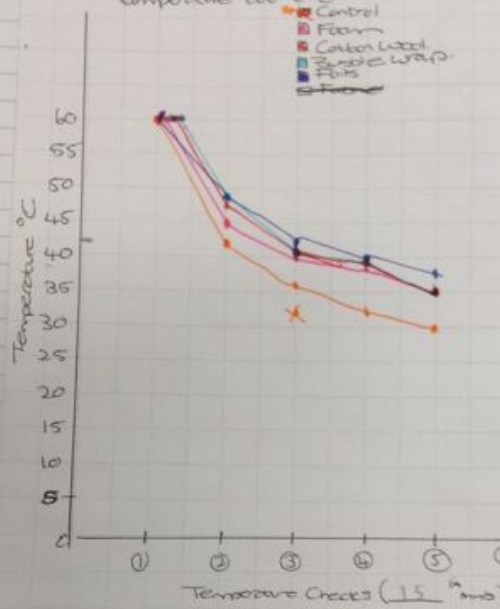
- asking questions
- making predictions
- setting up tests
- evaluating
- observing and measuring
- recording data
- interpreting and communicating results

Which material will keep the ~~astronauts~~ <sup>drinks</sup> warm during the freezing space night?

Cups	1	2	3	4	5
Cardboard cup (control)	60°C	43°C	36°C	35°C	30°C
Sponge foam	60°C	45°C	40°C	38°C	35°C
Cotton wool	60°C	47°C	41°C	39°C	35°C
bubble wrap	60°C	48°C	41°C	39°C	35°C
Foil sheet	60°C	48°C	43°C	40°C	37°C
Fabric	60°C	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Thermometer <sup>nothing at all</sup> <sub>didn't</sub> work

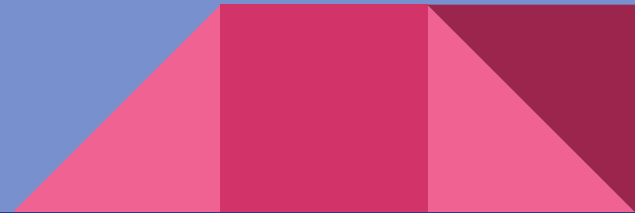
Graph showing decrease in temperature over time



The foil was the best insulator because it was the hottest at the end at 37°C and the control cup was the least because there was nothing wrapped round it and the cold was left it and it ended at 30°C. The reason for that the tin foil was because it had layers with and bubble wrap inside to make it a good insulator.

We found out that the tinfoil sheet was the best insulator as the temperature remained hot over a longer time. It was a special sheet with layers of bubble wrap in between. We know that bubble wrap is a great thermal insulators.

We think the astronauts need to use a good thermal insulator to keep their drinks hot. They could use foil insulation or bubble wrap as these are good insulators.



# Year 6 Hawks

"Which size of wheel will help the astronauts' rovers move smoothly over different surfaces?"



We put different materials in a tray to replicate the surface of Mars, like small stones, large stones, salt and earth and then tested different cars to see which size wheel would travel better over the surfaces.



# Year 6 Hawks

"Which size of wheel will help the astronauts' rovers move smoothly over different surfaces?"

	Small wheels	Big Wheels
Salt	X	/
Moon dust	X	/
Big stones	X	/
Small stones	X	/
Medium stones	X	/

We found that on all of the surfaces that we tested, the car with the bigger wheels travelled better over each terrain.

Max will explain why he thinks this is.....

# Thank you St John's Space Researchers!

BREAKING NEWS !!!!!



Will you and your family members take on the new St John's  
STEMquest Challenge?

**Challenge #1**

# Lunar Lander Challenge

NASA needs your help to design a spacecraft that will keep the astronauts safe when landing on the moon! How can we soften the landing of the spacecraft to protect the astronauts when landing?

