

More **FUN**

## The International Space Station

The most difficult thing about living in space is weightlessness. At first, it is probably quite fun, but when you need to get things done, it can be a nuisance. Inside the International Space Station (ISS) astronauts need to strap themselves down to do the most ordinary things. When you sleep, you need to tie yourself down so that you don't float all over the place. When you are on the toilet you need to be strapped down too, and make sure the different suction hoses are working properly. You don't want bathroom waste floating around the spaceship. You even need to be strapped down while working out. You move from room to room by grabbing onto the handles on the walls and pulling yourself along them.

The space station moves at 27,700 km/h and orbits the Earth 16 times in one day. It is not too far away and can be seen from Earth at night. The ISS is the biggest object ever flown into space.

The largest part of the ISS is the central truss that has 16 big solar panels attached to it. There are modules or rooms for the astronauts to live and work in, attached to the truss. One of the more important modules is the Columbus science laboratory, where astronauts can carry out scientific experiments in weightless conditions. Astronauts, mostly from Russia and the USA, do scientific experiments both inside and outside of the station.

# CHAPTER 15: The International Space Station

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### 1 Svvara på frågorna.

- 1) När måste en astronaut vara fastspänd i rymdstationen? Ge flera exempel.
- 2) Hur får internationella rymdstationen energi? Vilken energikälla använder man?
- 3) Från vilka länder kommer de flesta astronauterna på rymdstationen?

### 2 Science! One of the most important modules of the space station is the Columbus science laboratory. The astronauts do experiments there. Here are two experiments for you: invisible ink and slime.

#### EXPERIMENT 1: Milk Invisible Ink

Can you see, can you read it? Writing hidden messages can be fun and useful! Here is how you can do it very easily with milk!

##### What you need:

- milk
- cotton swab
- paper

- 1) Dip a cotton swab into a shallow dish of milk.
- 2) Use the cotton swab to write a message onto a white piece of paper. Allow the milk to dry.
- 3) Dry the message for about 30 minutes.
- 4) Expose the message to heat. You can use a light bulb, a candle/flame, or an iron. **Be very careful with the heat!**

#### EXPERIMENT 2: Slime

Is it a liquid or a solid? It stretches but then it breaks. It makes a ball and bounces. It feels slimy and wet, but it isn't! Here is how you can make Super Easy Slime!

##### What you need:

- 3 dl water
- 2,5 tablespoons of potato flour
- some drops of cooking oil
- food colouring (if you wish)

- 1) Mix 3 dl water and potato flour (2,5 tablespoons) in a pan. Use a whisk to make the mix smooth.
- 2) Put the pan on the stove and heat the mix. Whisk the whole time. **Be very careful with the heat!**
- 3) When the mix is thick and slimy, take the pan from the stove and turn off the heat. (Remove the pan when the mix starts to boil at the latest.)
- 4) Add some drops of cooking oil to the slime. Mix. Add food colouring if you like. Mix. **Be very careful – the slime is hot!**
- 5) Let the mix cool down. Put it in a cool place, for example, outside in the winter or in the fridge.
- 6) When the slime is cool, you can start using it!

**Tip!** Store the slime in an airtight container.