

Create your own satellite!

Astronauts live, work and play on board the International Space Station, zooming around the globe so fast they orbit Earth in just an hour and a half! If you see a star-like speck of light, zipping across the night sky, maybe you've caught sight of this live-in laboratory, or another satellite.

Tips to design and build your own satellite.

What is your satellite's purpose?

Satellites have all kinds of different uses! What will your satellite do?



Protecting our magnificent planet by doing things like watching the weather, guiding lost travellers, searching for space rocks, and other awesome jobs!

SPACE

Gazing upon objects in our solar system, galaxy and beyond into the wider universe...

Cleaning up all that space junk by gathering old satellites, moving them aside, or giving them more fuel to keep working longer!

Container

Satellites need a container to keep all these parts safe and together.

Direction

Tracker

Satellites use star

sensors to know

which way they're pointing. They look at the stars to

stay on track.

Power Source

Satellites need power to work. They can get power from sunlight using solar panels, or from special nuclear batteries if they go far from the Sun.

Essential Parts

Every satellite has these five important parts, but they can look and be put together in lots of different ways!

Means of Communication

Satellites contact Earth using antennas. These can look like dishes, horns, flat panels, or even coils.

Scientific Equipment

Satellites have tools like telescopes and sensors to help them do their jobs.

Build

Ask an adult permission to raid the recycling box.

Once you have some materials, get an idea of what your satellite might look like and how it might work. Then have a go at building one.

Satellites are all shapes and sizes. Feel free to get creative and try something new!

SAFETY

If using scissors or anything pointy or sharp, please make sure you have an adult to help you.

SCIENCE FOR ALL

We would love to see your marvellous creations. Share your satellites and tag us on social media using **@ScienceAtLife**.

Interested in seeing the ISS for yourself?

Where is the ISS now?



When will the ISS fly over my area?

