chabot space & science center

CHALLENGER LEARNING CENTER SCHOOL FIELD TRIP FAQ

Describe the mission. What will students do?

During the mission, Voyage To Mars, students will enter the Challenger Learning Center portal and get teleported forward in time to the year 2076. Students will receive a mission briefing and then be divided and start in two areas – the spacecraft and mission control. The incoming Spacecraft crew, with the help from Mars Control, will navigate through Mars orbit and land the spacecraft at Chryse Station. At arrival, the crews will switch areas, and the new crew will lift off from Mars and launch a fact-finding probe to one of the Martian moons, Phobos or Deimos.

How many students do I need to have? What is the max per mission?

A minimum of 16 and a maximum of 32 students can participate in each mission.

Is the mission aligned to science standards?

Yes! Mission are aligned to both the Next Generation Science Standards. More information is available here:

[Insert link to science standards alignment]

What are the target grade levels?

Grades 5-12.

How long is the mission?

2 ½ hours total, opens with a 30-min briefing and a 2 hour mission.

Can you describe the different team roles?

Each student will each take on different Mission Specialist roles. The roles at each station includes the following:

Data (DATA): Transmits important images and shares vital information between mission control and the spacecraft.

Medical (MED): Uses computers to gather data relating to the crew's health and its reaction to the stress of the mission.

Life Support (LS): Monitors and repairs the spacecraft's critical food, water, air, and electrical systems.

Probe (PROBE): Assembles a data-gathering scientific probe to relay data for analysis.

Isolation (ISO): Uses robots to handle hazardous chemicals, conduct tests, and count micrometeoroid impacts.

Remote (REM): Works in a glove box to analyze mass, volume, and density of meteorite samples.

Communication (COM): Maintains a voice link between the spacecraft and mission control.

Navigation (NAV): Calculates trajectories, and analyzes and determines angles for launch coordinates and probe deployment.

Press Team (Optional): Interviews crewmembers, prepares biographical sketches of the crew and uses video/photography equipment to record the events of the mission.

Additional general questions and information about field trips can be found on the Field Trip FAQ document.