

# Space Station

by Murray Reece

## Summary

The International Space Station is a base for astronauts who live and work in space for up to six months. This book examines the challenges of living in this unusual environment.

## Features of the Text

- Explanation
- Captioned photographs
- Contents page, glossary, index
- Labeled diagrams

## Purpose

*Space Station* can be used to introduce and reinforce the following skills:

- S** asking questions to deepen understanding;
- S** finding information in photographs;
- S** identifying the problems and solutions in a text.

## The Guided Reading Lesson

- S** Asking questions to deepen understanding
- S** Finding information in photographs

## Introducing the text

Look at the cover of the book and encourage the students to share what they know about space exploration.

- *What is a space station used for?*
- *Why do you think the International Space Station is so large?*
- *Who might the people in the photograph be?*

Ask the students to look at the contents page. Encourage them to think of questions they have about the space station. Write them on the board.

## Reading and discussing the text

Remind the students that photographs and captions provide extra information that supports the text. Then ask them to read the introduction on pages 2 to 4.

- *What challenges would the astronauts face?*
- *Why are new modules being added to the space station?*
- *How do you think they are added?*

Discuss the purpose of the different modules.

Ask the students to read page 5.

- *Why do you think so many countries are involved with the International Space Station?*

The students can now read pages 6 to 9.

- *What are the positive and negative things about living on the space station?*
- *How is life on the space station different from life on Earth?*

Ask the students to read pages 10 and 11 and to think about the challenges of eating in zero gravity.

Discuss the recycling diagram on page 13.

- *How is the wastewater on the space station recycled differently from the wastewater on Earth? Why?*

The students can now read to the end of the book. Discuss the ways in which the photographs and their captions support the text.

- *What extra information do the photographs and captions give?*
- *What do the photographs tell you about the astronauts' attitudes and feelings?*

Encourage the students to support their answers with evidence from the text.

Review the questions that were listed on the board and discuss which ones were answered.



## Following Up

The students can:

- use the blackline master on page 87 to record the problems faced by the astronauts on the space station and their solutions
- imagine they are an astronaut and write an email to their family on Earth, describing life on the space station
- write a newspaper article about the history and purpose of the space station.