

Teacher-Astronaut Offers New Lessons



Astronaut Barbara Morgan has lots of lessons she wants to share with students. Morgan, a teacher, returned from 13 days in space on August 21. She traveled with six other astronauts to the International Space Station aboard the space shuttle *Endeavour*.

Three weeks after her trip to space, Morgan taught her first “lesson” since returning to Earth. She talked to students, parents, and others at Walt Disney World. She answered questions about the mission and what it was like to be in space.

Morgan told the audience that her trip to the international space station was a long-time dream come true. “Reach for your dreams... the sky is no limit,” she told students.

While she was in space, Morgan used a voice and video connection to talk to students in Idaho, Virginia, and Canada. During one interview Morgan and another astronaut demonstrated how astronauts live in weightlessness, showed how soap and shampoo are used, and held up an astronaut sleeping bag.

As part of the mission, Morgan carried 10 million seeds into space. Now those seeds will be distributed to schools. Students will be asked to design small greenhouses for growing the seeds in space.

NEWS WORD BOX

weightlessness mission
design demonstrated
video greenhouse

MORE FACTS ABOUT BARBARA MORGAN

- Barbara Morgan used to teach elementary school in Idaho. She became a full-time astronaut in 1998.
- A hurricane on Earth forced the shuttle to return a day earlier than planned.

THINK ABOUT THE NEWS

When one student asked Morgan what she would most like to take into space, she replied, “As a teacher, I would want to take every student on this planet and every teacher on this planet.”

If Morgan could take *you* into space, would you go?

Explain why you feel the way you do.