National Aeronautics and Space Administration

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back!

How we can all use NASA's tools



Technology Transfer:

How we can all use the tools NASA creates for their space program

Did you ever think about all of the work NASA puts into creating the tools they use to study outer space? Every year, NASA scientists come up with new and better ways to explore and learn about our world and the universe. We call the new tools they create "technologies." Technologies help scientists, astronauts, and other people in the space program do their jobs better, safer, and easier.

What is Technology Transfer?

Many times the tools NASA creates can also help us do things better here on Earth. When NASA sees a way to put a tool that they use in space to use for something in our world, they "transfer" that technology to a company that can use it. This is called "Technology Transfer."

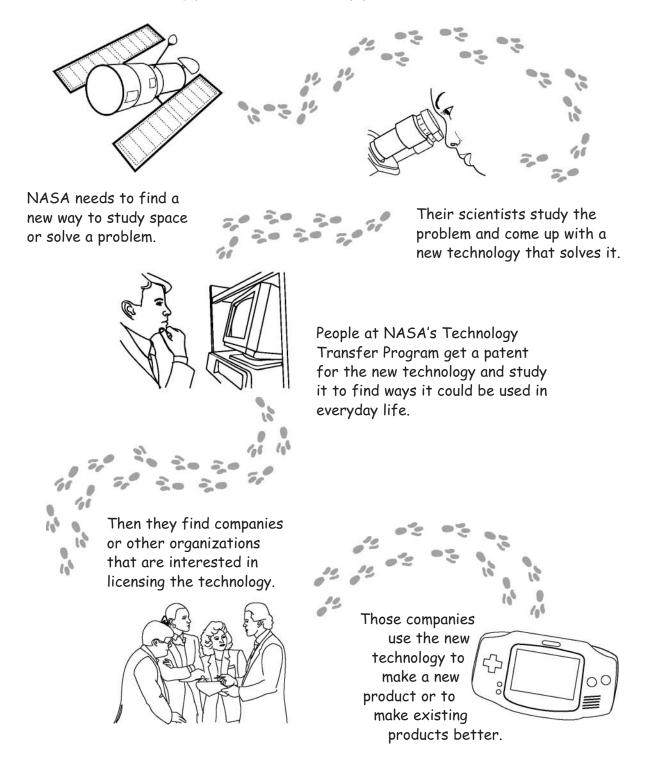
Each of NASA's ten Field Centers has people whose job it is to find new uses for the tools their scientists have developed. This coloring book was put together by the people at the Technology Transfer Program office at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center.



With the help of Space Pup, Goddard's technology transfer mascot, we'll show you how we use some of those space technologies here on Earth!



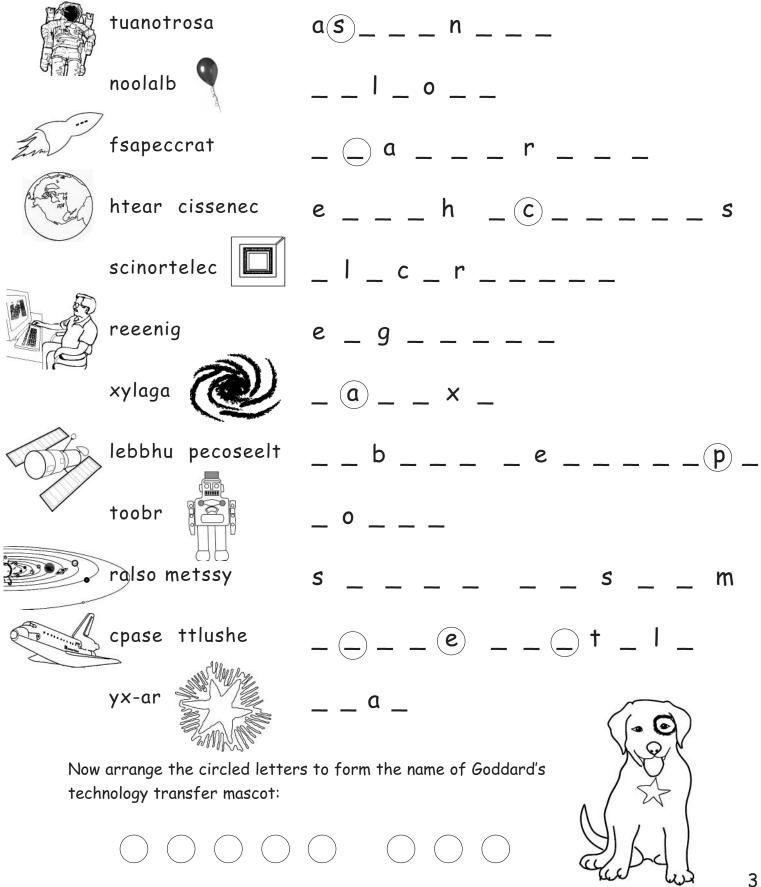
See how Technology Transfer happens:

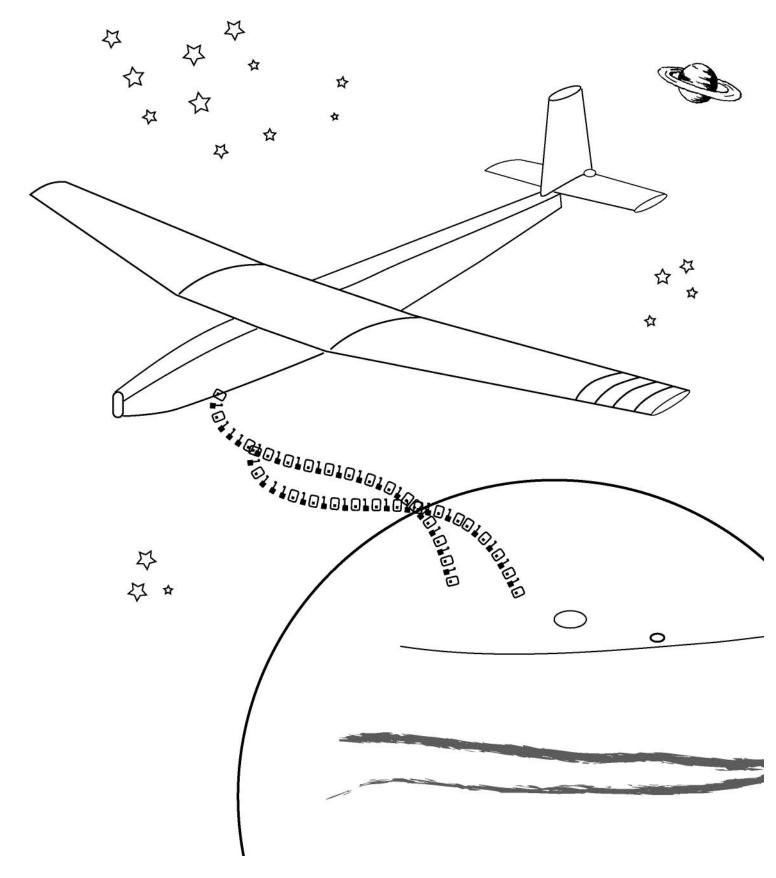


patent: A patent is an official document that describes an invention to protect it and keep others from making, using, or selling something just like it without the inventor's permission. (**Inventors** are people who use their imaginations to create something useful that is different from anything else.)

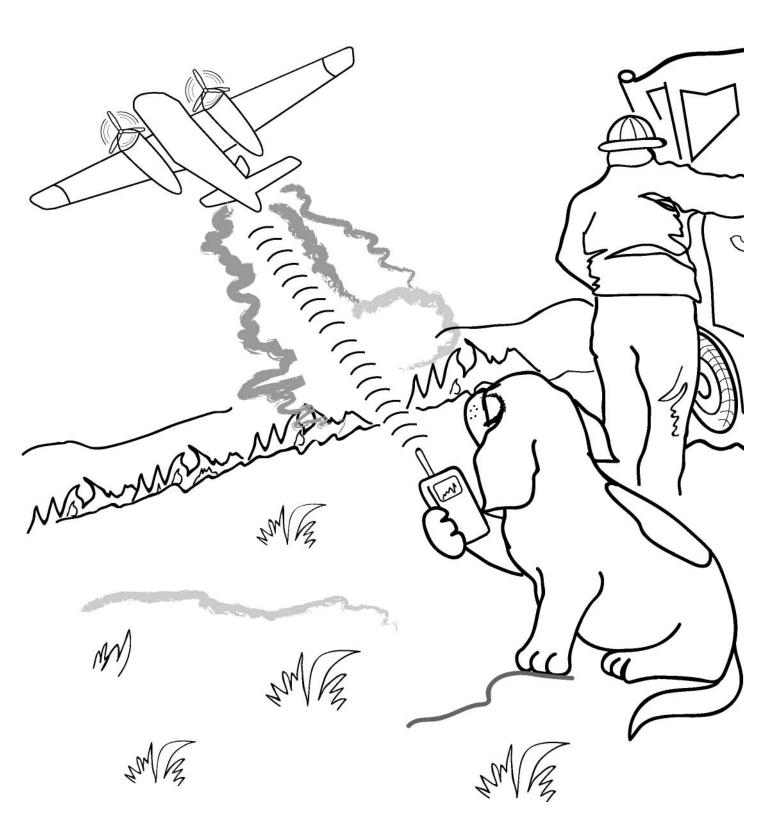
license: A license is an agreement between the inventor and another person that allows the other person to use the inventor's invention in their own work—usually for a fee.

Space words jumble:

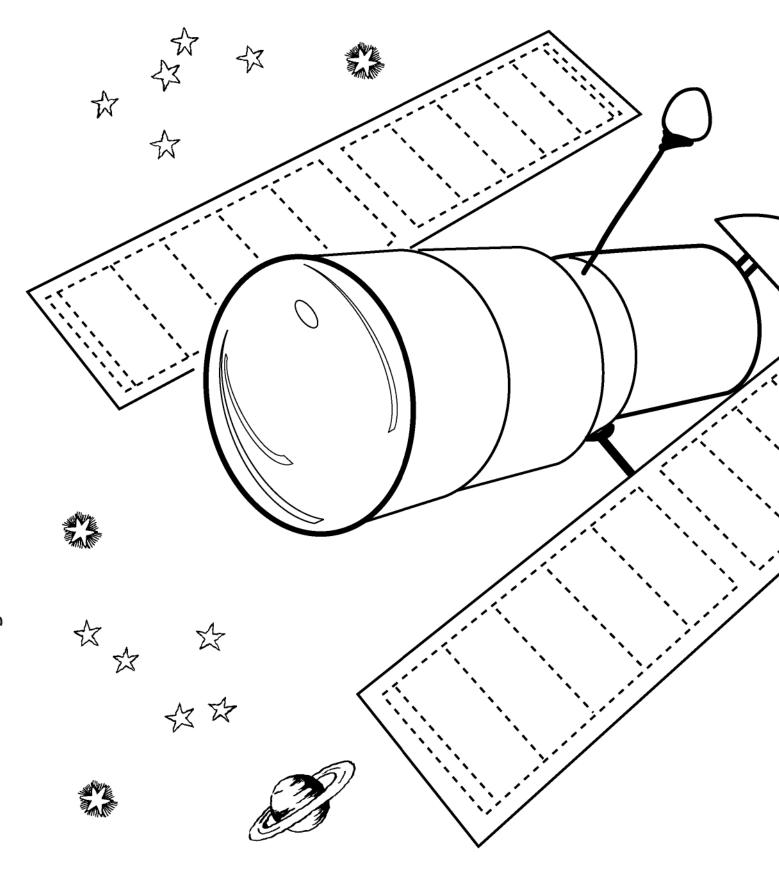




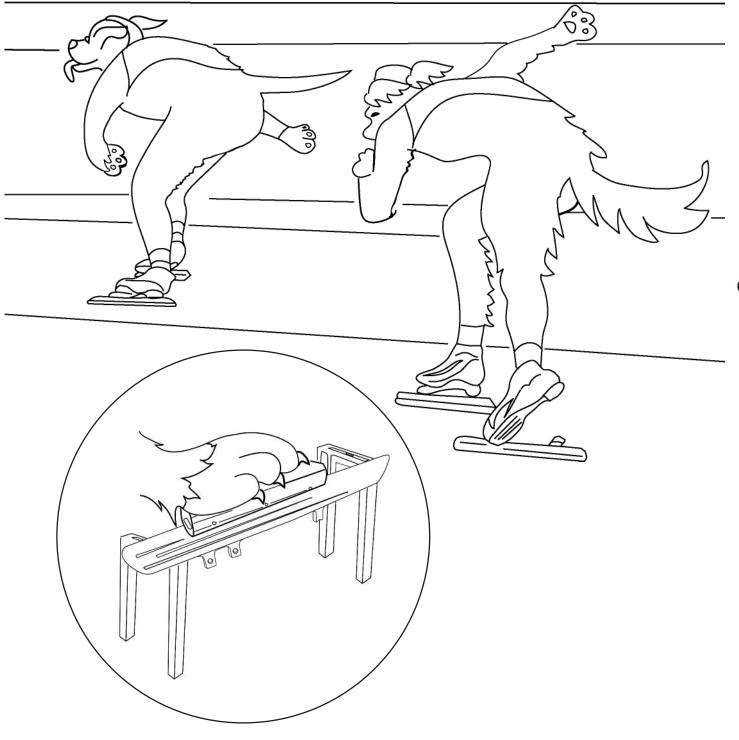
NASA uses this unmanned vehicle to gather information about the atmosphere around planets and other things in space.



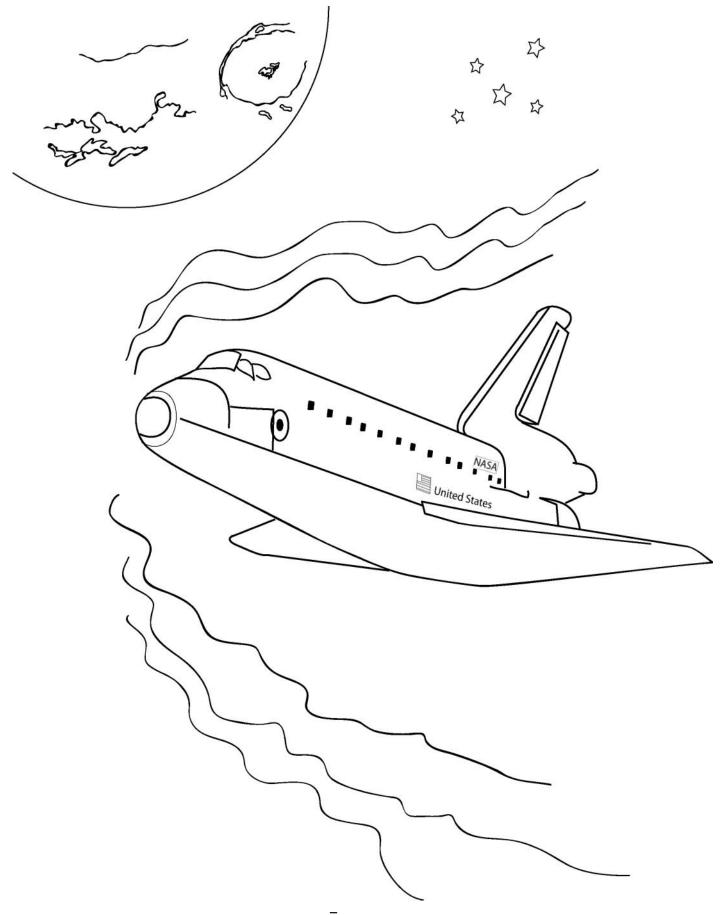
Space Pup can fly the unmanned vehicle over forest fires using a remote control. This lets us gather information about the fire without putting someone in danger.



NASA uses a special polishing technology to polish mirrors used in space telescopes like the Hubble!



We can use this polishing tool to smooth the surface of ice skate blades to make them go super fast!



NASA uses this capillary $[kap-^{\vartheta}-'lar-e]$ pumped loop warmer technology to control the temperature of their spacecraft.

A capillary is a tiny tube.