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**SPACE RACERS™: ADVENTURES IN SPACE EXPLORATION**

New Exhibit for Preschoolers Opens July 12!



**Hampton, VA** – Little explorers can blast off into space with this new interactive exhibit! *Space Racers™: Adventures in Space Exploration* will allow families to join Eagle and his fellow cadets at Stardust Bay Space Academy for a hands-on mission full of educational fun. Based on the new animated children’s television show *Space Racers™*, this exhibit for young children allows them to explore the wonders of space together in a fun and creative atmosphere.

This hands-on, minds-on exhibit features Eagle, Robyn, Hawk, Starling, and their fellow Space Racers as they guide families through the solar system and beyond, encouraging pretend play and space exploration! **Rocket Launch** encourages the engineer in little explorers where they can design their own spacecraft for a Mars mission and build a rocket with oversized building blocks in **Build A Rocket**. Visitors can join Mission Control and send a rocket soaring in **Blast Off!**, use **Mission Tracking** to track Eagle on an interplanetary mission, and determine if the weather conditions are good for launching a rocket at the **Weather Station**.

Visitors can pretend to be an astronaut aboard the International Space Station and discover what it is like to eat, sleep, work and play in space! Using the **Glove Box**, families can practice performing important repair tasks and view footage of real experiments aboard the International Space Station in the **Lab Area**. Visitors can find out what’s on the menu for our astronauts aboard the ISS, discover how it feels to sleep in a space station sleeping bag, and learn how astronauts exercise in zero gravity.

Children will love going **To the Moon!** where they can use a lunar rover pretending to be astronauts. On the moon, little ones can collect lunar samples using a robotic arm, examine “moon dirt,” use the sense of touch to experience different textures, and discover how heavy a bottle of milk is on the moon.

Little astronauts and their families can discover **Our Solar System** with **Day & Night** and **Seasons Matching Activities** using magnets. Guests can take a journey through **Constellation Creations** to observe a number of constellations and connect stars to make their own starry picture. *Space Racers™* character, Starling, explores the solar system in **Sun Fun**, an interactive where children can help the planets orbit the sun. Visitors can test their knowledge of the solar system in **Solar Puzzle** and guess the planet using the clues given.

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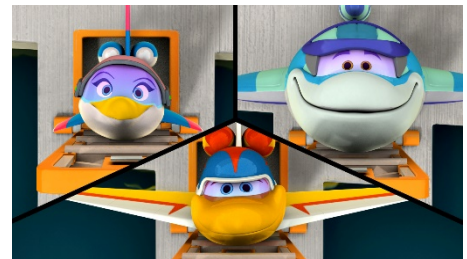
**Space Racers™ Place for Space** allows families to relax and watch clips from the new animated series, read a far-out story in the reading area, and let little explorers' imaginations run wild with coloring activities and building blocks.

**Tickets:**

Admission to the new exhibit ***Space Racers™: Adventures in Space Exploration*** is included with regular exhibit admission. Adults: \$11.50, Seniors/NASA/Military: \$10.50, and Children ages 3-18: \$9.50. Children under 3 receive free exhibit admission. Visitors who purchase a Virginia Air & Space Center family membership can receive unlimited FREE exhibit admission for a whole year, in addition to free admission at more than 200 participating science centers around the world. To learn more about the Virginia Air & Space Center's membership program visit [vasc.org](http://vasc.org).

**About Space Racers™ the animated series:**

***Space Racers™*** is a new, original, half-hour animated series for preschoolers that follow young spaceship cadets at the Stardust Bay Space Academy as they soar through the Solar System. Young viewers will learn about the power of scientific investigation and observation, the wonders of space exploration, and the importance of working together as a team, all with fun and engaging characters they can relate to.



**To learn more** about the new animated, children's series, ***Space Racers™***, now showing on WHRO in the Hampton Roads community, visit [spaceracers.org](http://spaceracers.org).

**To learn more** about the Center's new exhibit, ***Space Racers™: Adventures in Space Exploration***, visit [vasc.org](http://vasc.org)



The Virginia Air & Space Center (VASC) is the official visitor center for NASA Langley Research Center. VASC's mission is to educate, entertain and inspire the next generation of explorers. The Center is the region's leader in informal education bringing science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) education to the Hampton Roads community. Virginia Air & Space Center is located at 600 Settlers Landing Road in beautiful Downtown Hampton. Visit our website @ [www.vasc.org](http://www.vasc.org). For more information call 757.727.0900.

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