

COSMIC SPACE*

Momentum (pęd, ilość ruchu) - The tendency of a moving object to keep moving.

Moon - A natural object orbiting a planet.

Orbit - The path of a satellite around a planet or of a planet around its star.

Planet - A large, natural object that orbits a star.

Revolve - To move in a circular orbit; such as the Earth going around the sun.

Rotate - To turn around an axis or center point; which causes day and night on the Earth.

Satellite - A natural or man-made object which orbits a larger object; such as the moon orbiting the Earth.

Solar system - A system of a stars and all the objects that orbit it; Our solar system includes the sun, 9 planets, their moons, asteroids, and comets.

Space - The area above a planet's atmosphere.

Space probe - An unmanned spacecraft that explores the solar system and sends data back to Earth.

Stability - Resistance of an object to a change in its position.

Star - A point of light in the night sky. In the daytime only one star is visible - the sun - which, like the other stars, is a ball of gas which produces its own heat and light.

Vacuum - A space containing no matter or air.

Velocity - The speed and direction of an object.

Aeronautics

The science and practice of aircraft navigation. It is also used to refer to the engineering discipline related to the design, construction, and operation of aircraft. In relation to astronautics, aeronautics refers specifically to vehicles designed for travel within the atmosphere, while astronautics refers specifically to vehicles designed for travel outside of the atmosphere.

(Adapted from: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aeronautics>)

Air pressure - The force of air spread over a surface; it can be caused by the weight of the atmosphere above or by moving through the atmosphere.

Atmosphere - The gases surrounding a planet.

Drag - The force due to air that slows down the plane as it moves forward.

Force - A push or pull on an object.

Fuselage (kadłub) - The part of a plane which holds people and cargo and to which the wings and tail are attached.

Gravity - The force of attraction between two objects (such as the force between you and the Earth).

Mach - A number that compares an airplane's speed to the speed of sound 750 mph. (At Mach 2, a plane goes twice the speed of sound).

Rudder (ster) - The parts of the tail surfaces that control a plane's yaw (its left and right turning).

Supersonic - A term that indicates motion faster than the speed of sound (more than Mach 1 but less than Mach

Space Station

Astronaut - A person who trains to fly into space.

Cosmonaut - A Russian astronaut.

Dehydrate - To dry out.

Engineer - A person trained to design, construct, and operate mechanical or electrical instruments.

Environment - The air, water, minerals, organisms and all other interconnected things in a particular place.

Freefall - A condition where an object is falling without being stopped or slowed down, if its surroundings are also falling at the same rate, the object appears to float. This occurs on a spacecraft in orbit.

Observation - The act of gathering information by watching or by remote sensing.

Payload - All the cargo, including scientific equipment, carried in a spacecraft.

Ration - A fixed amount of food or water when the supply is limited.

Recycle - To treat material so that it can be used again.

Solar panel - A device that changes sunlight into electricity; made of solar cells.

Space shuttle - A reusable, crewed spacecraft used to place satellites in earth orbit and to conduct experiments.

Space station - A manned structure that orbits the Earth and is used for a variety of purposes, especially research.

Weightless - Being without weight, as an object in freefall or orbit.

Mission Control

Altitude - The height above sea level.

Communications - A means of sending and receiving messages and information.

Infrared - A type of light that can't be seen by humans but that instruments can use to measure the heat differences between objects.

Latitude - The distance north and south from the Equator, expressed in degrees.

Longitude - The distance east and west from Greenwich, England, expressed in degrees.

Lunar - A term referring to the moon.

Mission - A particular task that a person or group is to perform

Remote - Far away.

* Anna Plawecka©2005 based on <http://encounter.arc.nasa.gov/teachers.html>