

VIRGINIA AIR & SPACE SCIENCE CENTER

NASA LANGLEY VISITOR CENTER



The Virginia Air and Space Science Center has wonderful news to share! With your support this holiday season, we expect to achieve our goal to transform the visitor experience. As you may know, the Space Explorer Gallery, which opened in December of 2020, has been a tremendous success. Visitors of all ages are being engaged and inspired in space science through highly interactive, digital, and tactile exhibits. One mom wrote, “We were there for three hours, and the kids did not want to leave, the oldest child, my husband, insisted we return the next day....and we did.” We could not be more pleased with these kinds of endorsements, in fact our exhibit design process emphasizes family-centered learning. Due to the success of the Space Explorer Gallery, our next capital project will focus on families and early learners. We are excited to announce The SPACE (Smile, Play, Achieve, Create, Explore) coming spring 2022. This acronym is all actions we believe are important to families to facilitate memorable experiences and support lifelong learning. Although we are still in the planning stage of this gallery enhancement, we wanted to share some key components:

- **Digital Airplane Studio:** Where families will be able to color their planes, scan and watch as they take off of a runway, flying across the screen. This experience enforces creativity and personalization.
- **Dr. Christine Darden Literacy Center:** Where children and families will be able to read along with a true hidden figure, Dr. Christine Darden. This exhibit experience is aimed at literacy and career advancement.
- **Junior Pilot Training:** Where children will be able to step into the role of an actual pilot and cruise the runway. This exhibit focuses on kinesthetic motor skills and career awareness.
- **Planetarium without walls:** This powerful experience takes families on a remarkable and imaginative journey through space and time. The content is spectacular and focuses on space and earth sciences.

The Center has been on a transformative journey to meet the needs of the 21st century learner and has been successful due to the generous support of stakeholders like you! Your support will ensure we are not only a provider of great experiences, but a leader in the community. The next generation is depending on community assets like the Virginia Air and Space Science Center to make them smile, play, achieve, create, and explore. We need your help to achieve the level of extraordinary educational experiences this region’s families deserve. You can click on the link below or mail your donation to 600 Settlers Landing Road, Hampton, VA 23669. We thank you in advance for supporting the Virginia Air and Space Science Center as we strive to reach beyond the stars!

Regards,

Robert R. Griesmer

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The mission of the Virginia Air & Space Science Center is to educate, entertain, and inspire explorers of all ages.