



TESTIMONIALS

*I learned that even though we are all different, we are still equal. It was the best time I ever had. **July 2008***

Farellin Martinez,
MS319
Student,
New York, U.S.A.

*Although our students come from different cultures, children are children all over the world. **July 2008***

Mel Prater,
Science Teacher,
Murfreesboro, Tennessee, U.S.A

*Some people talk about the problems with science education and international relations. Others take action. Your actions..... make a difference in so many children's lives. **July 2008***

Jay Buckey,
Astronaut,
New Hampshire, U.S.A.

*I piloted the Partner School Science Program at my school, Browne Academy in Alexandria, Virginia, last year. My students were excited to feel a part of something larger than their own small world. **July 2008***

Paul Cummins,
Browne Academy,
Virginia, U.S.A.

...In addition you can learn to dream beyond your horizons and gain valuable friends who are like you. You can learn what you can do at Space Camp from the Internet. I would like to explain to you importance of the camp. Most young people abandon their dreams during adolescence and try to adapt their plans to the cruel world with a limited vision. Their minds are fully confused and they have doubts that there is a common denominator to what they want and what life will bring. Because of this, young people cannot go to the high school of their choice. They fail in university exam; even though pass the exam they don't know which major is proper for them; they choose their major like choosing fruits from the grocery store...

Ok, what does all of this have to do with Space Camp? I will answer this question by taking myself as an example. Space Camp started in June 2000. I attended Space Camp (in 2003) with seven friends of mine with the great support of one of our wonderful teachers. Those days our friendship became stronger. Even though we live in different cities we still visit each other so often. I was a regular (public) high school student; to be honest I was pushing back my university dreams to keep myself away from dreams



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which will never come true. Competing at the same exam with the students from Anatolian High Schools, Science Schools and Private Colleges was a dream not just for me but also for most of my teachers.

That summer going to space at Space Camp, sitting in the same (shuttle) seat as the smartest people at NASA, and seeing that dreams can come true if you really want them to, gave the most precious lesson to me in my life: "To respect my dreams". To make this happen is not as easy as to write about it, but I can tell you for sure that the adventure we lived in those days changed my and my friends' lives completely. All of my friends, and, of course, I also passed the university exam and got the major we wanted. I have chosen the major which was unrealistic for most of people around me: I was looking for a job which could overlap with my dreams so I didn't hesitate to choose it. Now I am dreaming to be successful and I will.

The purpose of this letter is to fulfill an obligation. Maybe you are a child, maybe you have a child or you can help a child and do something for him.

I would like to remind you that being able to attend Space Camp was not simply luck. I would like to thank my teacher Mrs. Zeynep Uluer and ask you to think what else can be more valuable than giving "the power to make dreams come true."

*Ibrahim Halil Miraloglu
April 2008*

*Student at Istanbul Technical University, Molecular Biology and Genetics
Former student at Karsiyaka Public High School
Attended Space Camp Turkey in 2003 with a GFTSE scholarship*

...the chance to visit Space Camp and experience all the events were like a dream come true.... Just meeting the rest of the teachers and connecting with one another was a very moving experience for me.

July 2008

*Alon Levy,
Teacher,
Science and Knowledge School
Zoran Qadima, Israel*

*I learned a lot from other kids and their countries, their culture and I especially learned from special events night. They presented so I wanted to live here. There were kids from Turkey, Greece, Bulgaria, Israel, 1 girl from Egypt and learned a lot from their countries. I can't wait to visit them when I grow older. **July 2008***

*Harold Esttrella,
MS324
8th Grade
New York, U.S.A.*