Earlsdon Primary School
Space week,
enabling pupil-led enquiry.
A truly inspiring exemplar of how to use real science to stimulate pupil’s imagination and allow them to lead.

Challenges include designing an astronaut Hall of Fame, planning a mission, designing a menu on ISS, designing a training regime for an astronaut and building their own space station.

What the school says

In line with Tim Peake’s launch into space, we organised a whole school Space Week to raise the awareness of Tim being the first British Astronaut to walk in space. Tim's six-month mission to the International Space Station is named Principia and he is performing more than 30 scientific experiments whilst he is there.

The aim was also to increase the children’s interest in Space Science and science in general.

If you want to join in, this is a good place to start http://www.astrosciencechallenge.com/
Held staff meeting in advance to introduce activities and get staff on board (as this meant being off timetable for a week). Gave background to Tim Peake’s mission etc.

Put together lesson ideas, resources and suggested activities (differentiated by year group) for the week so staff could easily access and use / adapt as they wished.

Sent out parent letter in advance to request any junk modelling for International Space Station building competition. This also raised awareness outside of school.

Prepared separate Foundation/KS1 and KS2 Space Week assemblies and delivered these at the beginning of the week.

Carried out a celebratory ‘Space Scientists of the week’ assembly at the end of the week to reward individual achievements.
## Great guided reading books

### How to Catch a Star
Oliver Jeffers

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### Example Timetables

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| Day 1 | Station Tour: Harmony, Tranquility, Unity  
The Planets – Planet PE – learn the names of the planets  
Solar System song – https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zb8JYBzD1jA  
Spaceship Earth – SS & Who is Tim Peake?  
How to catch a star – Oliver Jeffers – guided reading  
Story writing linked to: How to catch a star  
| Day 3 | Station Tour: Cupola and Leonardo  
Falling stars – meteoroids, bingo  
Make your own memory game / sentence building using pictures  
Art Invader! – see images in pack  
Mission: Control! – Train like an astronaut  
| Day 2 | Station Tour: Destiny, Columbus, Kibo  
Travelling to space – Make a rocket film  
- Make a rocket  
- Rocket Race  
What is an astronaut? – Design own astronaut – Hall of fame.  
Create an Astronaut menu  
Getting there and back – Plan a mission  
| Day 4 | Station Tour: Zarya and Zvezda  
Build 192 (mixed KS3 teams)  

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**Year 3**

| Day 1 | Station Tour: Harmony, Tranquility, Unity  
Solar System song – https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zb8JYBzD1jA  
Spaceship Earth – SS & Who is Tim Peake?  
What is an astronaut? – Design own astronaut – Hall of fame.  
Astronauts Handbook – Guided reading  
Art Invader! – see images in pack  
| Day 3 | Station Tour: Cupola and Leonardo  
Mission: Living in space:  
English – How can you support Tim Peake’s blog / messages  
Science – How do we measure a day on Earth?  
Maths – How does your day on Earth compare to an Astronaut?  
Solar system  
| Day 2 | Station Tour: Destiny, Columbus, Kibo  
Mission: Flight for space:  
English – Persuade head chef to choose your meal  
Science – What would Tim like for dinner?  
Maths – How much is Tim’s dinner for 8 weeks?  
Create an Astronaut menu  
Getting there and back – Plan a mission  
| Day 4 | Station Tour: Zarya and Zvezda  
Build 192 (mixed KS2 teams)  

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**Year 3**

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| Destiny | Mr Wilson  
Mr Blunt  
Mr Johnson  
Mr Dobson  
Mr Howells  
Ms Maybe  
| Kids | | | | | |
| Tranquility | | | | | |
| Harmony | | | | | |
| Zarya | | | | | |
Foundation / KS1 examples

Astronaut Food

Vegetables

Space Food

30.11.15 Challenge - Space week
Design a star catcher and label

This is my star catcher
Hoover-ladder. How to use it. Climb up the ladder and catch the star.

The Milky Way

Space
Children rose to the challenge

Design and build a telescope

Researching Tim Peake, the astronaut

https://trainlikeanastronaut.org/
All children across the school were put into mixed teams with their own team name and they worked together to build their own version of the ISS!

We have been having a competition to construct the ISS in teams, out of junk modelling! Inspired by @astro_timpeake!
Building the ISS – Inter-school Competition

http://www.space.com/31010-building-the-international-space-station.html
Building the ISS – Finished models
The impact for our school was ..... 

• Space week raised the profile of space science beyond the actual week as the children have continued to be engaged and inspired by Tim Peake, following him via various media.

• Some children have even begun to carry out further independent Space related research projects for a forthcoming local competition in association with the Ogden Trust.

• It also developed team-building skills.
This was an exciting week that engaged all children across the school EYFS, KS1 and KS2. It coincided with Tim Peake’s launch into Space in Dec 2015 so this immediately captured the children’s attention, imagination and related to a real-life event.

The activities had extensive cross-curricular links of the science, to maths, English (including guided reading), D & T, PE and art.

This week inspired some excellent pieces of writing, particularly engaging boys.

All could be used again for future stand-alone lessons.
What we will do next...

We would like to begin to develop Guided Talk for Science in school. This is like a Guided Reading session but based on science-related learning and questioning within smaller focus groups. A rich text would be chosen to suit the children’s reading ability and linked in to their current science topic.