

How Do Astronauts Survive in Space?

People cannot **survive** outside in space for more than two minutes. Astronauts survive because they wear spacesuits with special **equipment** and live in space stations.

Spacesuits

The temperature in space is freezing but the bright sun can burn people badly. Astronauts wear spacesuits to **protect** their bodies when they go on a space walk.

Helmets protect their heads. Dark **visors** protect their eyes from bright sunlight. Earphones and microphones help astronauts talk and listen to each other.

Astronauts need to breathe air with **oxygen** to stay alive but there is no oxygen in space. Spacesuits provide oxygen.

Astronauts are tied to the space station. To fly away free would be disastrous! Some spacesuits have a rocket-powered backpack to help astronauts return to the space station.



Inside the space station

Most astronauts live and work inside a space station. They do not need to wear spacesuits in the space station but there are other tricky problems.

There is no **gravity** in space. Gravity is what keeps us on the ground on Earth. Without gravity, everything floats so, in space, everything needs to be fastened down or stored away. Astronauts are even strapped into their beds!

To relax, astronauts exercise, read, write and listen to music. It is amazing how astronauts survive their adventures in space!





Comprehension

A Answer the questions.

1. How long could a person survive outside in space?
2. What is the temperature like in space?
3. How do astronauts talk to each other outside the space station?
4. Is there any oxygen in space?
5. Why does everything in the space station need to be tied down?
6. Why do you think astronauts need to relax?



Would you like to be an astronaut? Why or why not?

B Complete the activities.

1. Write two good things and two bad things about life in space.
2. Space crews often have team badges. Design a team badge for a new space crew. Use the examples for ideas.



a
b c

Vocabulary

Write each word next to its meaning.

survive equipment protect visor oxygen gravity

- equipment _____ items needed for a purpose
- _____ keep safe from harm
- _____ a gas we need to breathe
- _____ a force that keeps us on the ground on Earth
- _____ stay alive
- _____ part of a helmet that covers the face



Write a sentence using **protect**.