

While you read

Read the text carefully. Underline the following words: chance, leadership, background, aspiring and perseverance.

More than a dream

Could space be your own new frontier?

Are you planning to be one of Earth's next generation of explorer-astronauts? What do aspiring astronauts do to prepare themselves for the possibility of a career in space?

Alyssa Carson is the best person to be asked this question. Alyssa's dream is to be the first person on Mars. When she was a child, she read as much as possible about Mars, studied its maps, and did everything she could to learn about the Red Planet. This included going to a space-themed camp for the first time at age seven. Since then, Alyssa has attended more than 20 such camps. She was the first person ever to complete all the NASA Space Camps in the world at age 13. At these camps, future astronauts get the chance to ride in space-flight simulators and experience what zero gravity feels like.

While Space Camp may not be possible for everyone, there are many other ways to prepare for a future in space. If you're interested, consider the following:
Astronauts must be in excellent physical condition. So, you must have a healthy lifestyle of a balanced diet, regular exercise and plenty of sleep.

In addition, astronauts need to meet a wide range of physical challenges. That's why they must engage through activities such as scuba diving, skydiving, skiing, mountain climbing and piloting aircraft are extremely valuable. Now's a great time to start learning these types of skills little by little.

Also, astronauts need to meet a wide range of emotional challenges. Work on developing positive traits, such as patience, co-operation and perseverance. Take every opportunity to practice team-building, leadership and problem-solving skills.

A strong background in maths and science is needed for astronauts. Work with your school's advisers and mentors to determine the best subjects to study. Keep up with real-time developments and discoveries in space.

Don't forget languages! In addition to English, you'll need to know other languages such as Russian and Chinese to communicate successfully.

Now answer the following questions.



.Who is Alyssa Carson?

.What do you think happens at space camp session?

.Beside camp, what can aspiring astronauts do to prepare for space?

.What is the main purpose of the reading?

