


Reading 2

★ **3** What do you know about life on the International Space Station? What do you want to know? Make a KWL chart in your notebooks.

★ **4**  **Read *Life on the International Space Station*.** Did you find what you wanted to know?

★ Reading strategy

Use a KWL technique to help you understand a text.

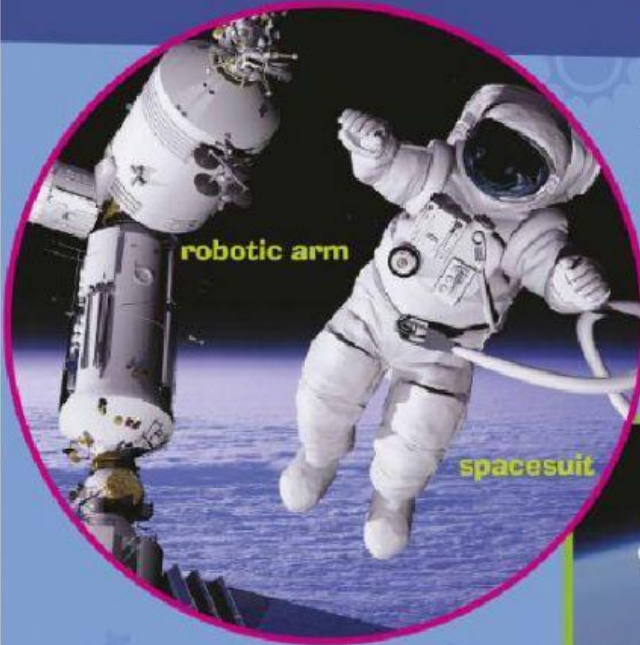
Life on the INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION

High above the Earth a group of people live and work in a moving **laboratory**. Their home travels very fast and from the window the Earth looks incredibly beautiful.

Astronauts from many countries work at the International **Space Station**. It **orbits** Earth every 90 minutes. They haven't got day and night like we have. They see sunrise and sunset **15** times a day! They also watch the weather on Earth – they can see clouds, storms and even lightning.

Astronauts began constructing the International Space Station in 1998 and they finished **13** years later. It is now big enough for seven people to work, play and sleep in. They usually live on the space station for six months.

The **scientists** on the International Space Station are very busy. They use powerful **telescopes** to study the Earth, **planets**, stars and outer space. They work on computers and check their experiments three times a day.



robotic arm

spacesuit

The astronauts also have to look after the space station. They do space walks once a week to fix things on the outside of the spacecraft. They use a robotic arm to do the repairs. To work outside, the astronauts wear **spacesuits**. This means they can breathe in space, beyond Earth's atmosphere.

In the past, astronauts ate strange food but these days they eat regular food, like pasta and vegetables. The food arrives in a **rocket**, which **launches** from Earth once a month. Sleeping is difficult. Some astronauts go to sleep in the air. Others tie themselves into bed so they don't **float** around.

Staying healthy in space is important, so the astronauts exercise every day. They use special stationary bikes or running machines.



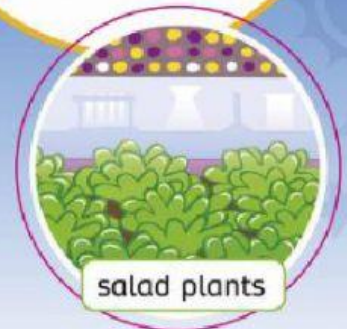
space walk



Did you know?
One experiment on the space station tests if salad plants can grow in space. Some countries are getting ready to send people to Mars, where plants can't grow.



running machine



salad plants

- 5** Work with a friend. Look at the pictures of these things. Then find and read the sentences with these phrases.

spacesuit robotic arm
salad plants space walk
running machine



- 6** Read the article again. Circle **T** (true) or **F** (false).

- The International Space Station orbits Earth every 20 minutes. **T F**
- They see the sunrise 15 times a day. **T F**
- They never exercise. **T F**
- The astronauts use big telescopes to study space. **T F**