



My Profile as an Astronaut

Suggested Grade Level 5

Objective	Learn about the life an astronaut veterinarian. Then, using the profile of the first veterinarian/astronaut as a guide, students create a profile of themselves as a veterinarian astronaut.
Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AVMA Poster • Internet Access • Photograph or drawing of the student

<p>Procedure</p> <p>National Standards:</p> <p>Language Arts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Writing process • Research, data collection <p>Science</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Earth in the solar system • Science as a human endeavor 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The teacher shows the picture on the timeline of Dr. Martin Fettman and asks what the students can tell about him from the photo. The teacher tells the students that he is an example of an astronaut who is also a veterinarian. • The teacher explains that the students will have an opportunity to learn what veterinarians do in space and write a description of themselves as a veterinarian astronaut. The description is to be written as a <i>profile</i>. Students are told that some of the profile will be imagined and some will be true and based upon the two real profiles that they will now review. • The teacher directs the students to this Web site: www.jsc.nasa.gov/Bios/htmlbios/linnehan.html to view the profile for Dr. Richard Linnehan. Students also view the profile of another former NASA veterinarian, Dr. Martin Fettman, at: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Martin_J._Fettman As students view the profiles, the class discusses the elements in each such as personal data, education, organizations, honors, experience, and flight training. • Each student creates an imaginary self-profile as a NASA veterinarian that includes personal data, education, organizations, special honors, etc. The student needs to provide enough detail so that the reader knows what was done, when, where and why. • The students take a digital image of themselves as an astronaut veterinarian (dressed as they think appropriate. . . Have fun!) to mount alongside their profile on a bulletin board after they present their profile to the class. Or, students can draw a picture of themselves as a NASA veterinarian and post it alongside their profile.
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Ideas to extend this lesson	Veterinarians work in many different types of specialties, including work as astronauts. Read about what types of jobs veterinarians can do by accessing the AVMA career brochure, "Veterinarians," off the AVMA Web site, www.avma.org . Have students make a list of ten different ways veterinarians use their training to improve animal and human health.
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