

Press Release

Calling all future astronauts: Airbus Foundation launches Discovery Space with lessons in 3D design using Autodesk software

Toulouse, 2 May 2018 – The Airbus Foundation is teaming up with Autodesk Inc., the software provider for people who make things, to launch the Discovery Space, a digital portal with educational animations and interactive aerospace-themed lessons in 3D design: www.airbus.com/company/discovery-space.html

In an effort to inspire students to pursue science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) careers, the site's interactive curriculum brings aerospace into the classroom by teaching students about space exploration, including what it takes to survive in space and fly a mission to the moon.

Tom Enders, Chairman of the Airbus Foundation, said: "Youth development is at the heart of the Airbus Foundation's mission. It is all about the future. We strive every day to stimulate and inspire young minds through STEM and are proud to add the Discovery Space website as an additional educational tool. I would like to thank our collaborator Autodesk for providing the resources and design software to make this website as appealing to students as possible."

The Airbus Foundation Discovery Space project offers students the opportunity to build their own virtual spacecraft in Autodesk Tinkercad and Autodesk Fusion 360 software, factoring in parameters such as robustness to break through Earth's atmosphere, trajectory and impact for landing on the moon. Students can also build portfolios and submit designs to win the "Mission to the Moon" challenge. In addition, the Airbus Foundation Discovery Space project includes downloadable videos and step-by-step guides inspiring future engineers.

"Technology is changing how people design and make things and with the launch of Discovery Space, we're joining the Airbus Foundation in helping the next generation strengthen the skills needed for the jobs of tomorrow," said Mary Hope McQuiston, Vice President, Education Experiences, Autodesk. "These interactive space exploration projects not only teach students how to use 3D design software, but also the skills and mindset that will be so critical in the future, including being curious, resilient and collaborative."

The Discovery Space website compliments the Foundation's onsite STEM programmes, like the Airbus Foundation Discovery Space at Stevenage, United Kingdom, a site-specific installation where young people can discover aerospace through hands-on experiences.

Please click [here](#) for a video with Tom Enders and Mary Hope McQuiston talking about their passion for aerospace and the Airbus Foundation Discovery Space.

AIRBUS FOUNDATION

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About the Airbus Foundation

The Airbus Foundation, chaired by Tom Enders, CEO of Airbus, includes Airbus, Airbus Helicopters and Airbus Defence and Space as founding and contributing members. It is the company's vehicle for corporate philanthropy, using the group's resources, aeronautic and space products, competencies, diverse workforce and culture for driving innovation to address societal issues. In particular, the Foundation supports the global humanitarian community and inspires and prepares young people for the challenges of tomorrow. Since its launch in May 2008, the Airbus Foundation has facilitated more than 60 relief or goodwill flights to numerous destinations around the globe. More information can be found at <http://company.airbus.com/company/Foundation.html>.

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