

SPACE CAMP

SECTION 4: DOCKING IN SPACE



Westminster College

OBJECTIVES:

In space, astronauts must meet up with satellites moving at high speeds in orbit. How well can you pilot your spacecraft?

MATERIALS:

rope
metal hanger or hoop
ball
pole

PREPARATION:

1. Tie the rope to the hanger/hoop.
2. Tie the other end to a pole.
3. Place piece of tape on the floor a short distance away from where the hoop will be.

PROCEDURE:

1. Explain that students will get three attempts to dock the aircraft. They will throw the ball and try to get it to go through the hoop. They will stand behind the line.
2. Hold the pole up so that the hoop dangles a short distance from the line. Have another student gently swing the hoop. Give each student 3 turns.
3. If they dock without hitting the hoop, 10 points. If they dock but hit the hanger, 5 points. (docking is getting through the hoop) Have them record their attempts on their worksheet.

