## MIXSTIX

DREAMUP, PBC



### WHAT ARE MIXSTIX?



- MixStix are simply mixture enclosure tubes keep fluids, materials, chemicals, biological materials separate, then see how they mix in space!
- Materials mix differently in microgravity part of the mystery of the universe
- MixStix allow for single, double or triple experiment sample segments of adjustable sizes and the ability to open or close clamps at specified times
- Tubes can be shaken either gently or vigorously to facilitate mixing





### WHY MIXSTIX?

- Affordable microgravity research that gets returned to you
- Highly versatile—have been used by elementary schoolers and professional researchers alike and for all scientific disciplines
- Easy to assemble—a member of our team holds a video conference with your group to walk you through the loading process before you ship it to Nanoracks (our launch services provider)
- Keep a control experiment on Earth
- An astronaut will be directly interacting with your experiment!

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## **TECHNICAL DETAILS**



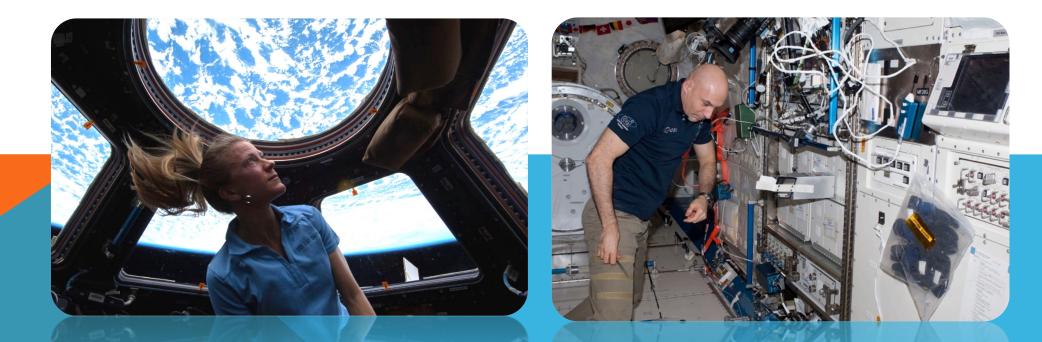


- Designed for Fluid and Biological research onboard the ISS
- 10 ml Parylene Coated Silicon Tubes
- Provides the ability to keep materials separate until on-orbit
- Can be stowed frozen (-20C), cold (+4C), or ambient on launch, berth, pre & post operations, and on return.

## IMPROVE LIFE IN SPACE



- Testing how bacterial biofilms form on contact lenses in microgravity
  - (The Effect of Microgravity on Bacterial Biofilm Formation on Soft Contact Lenses New Explorations into Science, Technology and Math, Grade 5, New York City, NY)
- Studying a potential factor in rapid skin aging, impaired wound healing, and bone loss experienced by astronauts
  - (Effect of Matrix Metalloproteinase-1 on Collagen Integrity in Microgravity Treasure Valley Mathematics and Science Center, Grade 7, Boise, ID)
- Determining whether ASM contributes to muscle atrophy in spaceflight
  - (Levels of Sphingomyelinase (ASM-2) in Caenorhabditis Elegans in Microgravity University of Toronto Schools, Grades 8 and 12, Toronto, Ontario, Canada)



## **BIOLOGY EXAMPLES**

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Plant growth (often seeds, water, and a growth substrate)

- Sunflower seeds
- Red clover
- Algae reproduction

Animals (often eggs/larvae, an agar or food substance, and formaldehyde for preservation)

- Tardigrades
- Ladybugs
- Drosophila

#### Bacteria (often a strain sample and antibiotic)

- Staphylococcus epidermis
- E. coli
- Lactobacillus



## CHEMISTRY EXAMPLES

Paper chromatography Formation of tin whiskers on solder Breakdown of hydrogen peroxide Rust formation

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### WHY DREAMUP?

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#### myLAUNCH

- DreamUp will host you at your payload's launch!
- Providing you a full VIP experience with tours, events, special viewing, and more

#### Alumni Program

• Think your school's alumni would like to help sponsor a research experiment? We've got materials ready to help get them involved

#### Access to DreamUp Network

- We've launched over 400 experiments to the ISS, so we've got a big network!
- Over 70,000 students engaged
- We are building a community of students and alumni who want to push STEM education to new boundaries, and create exciting opportunities for every student

### AUTOMATED MIXSTIX



- Automated MixStix are autonomous, so they operated without the need of human interaction.
  - This is ideal for more precise science needs that can't allow for human fluctuations
  - We get get shaking/movement of the stick down to an exact time
- Reusable
  - Even in space, we are trying to be more eco-friendly!
- Wider flow channel for better mixing allows you to use different fluids and materials in the tubes

## FLIGHT OPPORTUNITIES: NORTHROP GRUMMAN & SPACEX

#### To the International Space Station

- ~30 day mission duration is standard, but can be extended
- Flights approximately every quarter from each provider
- Rockets launch from Wallops Island, Virginia and Cape Canaveral, Florida
- NASA Safety Process Three Phases
- Payloads can be returned on SpaceX's Dragon capsule
- MixStix operated via Nanoracks, who books time with the astronauts







#### DARE TO DREAM WITH DREAMUP!

www.dreamup.org

Thanks! We look forward to bringing your students' dreams to space.

Contact: info@dreamup.org



# NANORACKS OPERATIONS

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Safety Review



Delivery

### On-Orbit Operations



Return



Landing



Retrieval



Receive At Nanoracks