SYNERGISTIC LEARNING SYSTEMS
A DIVISION OF PITSCO, INC.

PARENT BRIEFING

Module

Rocketry & Space

- Understand the history of U.S. space exploration and the development of rocketry.
- Observe rocket aerodynamics and flight by launching a model rocket and measuring its altitude.
- Comprehend certain scientific principles as they relate to rocketry and space flight.

Session Focus

1. Space Exploration
2. Rocketry and Space Flight
3. Rocket Assembly
4. Recovery Systems and Rocket Assembly
5. Rocket Kit Assembly
6. Rocket Painting
7. Life in Space

Dear Parent,

As parents and teachers, we realize it can be hard to get a child to discuss what he or she is learning in school. We hope the information provided on this page will assist you in communicating with your child about what he or she is learning.

For the next few days, your child will be learning about the development of rocketry and the space program while completing the *Rocketry & Space* Module. As your child's best teacher, your participation in the learning process is extremely important.

Words students will learn in this Module include:

- SRB (solid rocket booster)
- astronaut
- commander
- countdown
- space shuttle
- EMU (Extra-vehicular Mobility Unit)
- NASA
- orbiter
- payload
- propellant
- boost

Questions for discussion

During the course of this Module, your child will be assessed on key concepts and activities. You might want to discuss these concepts with your child.

He or she will be asked to:

- Explain the scientific principle employed when the space shuttle lifts off. *(Newton's third law states that for every action there is an equal but opposite reaction. This principle explains how the shuttle can be lifted off the ground.)*
- Describe the main stages of rocket flight. *(Ignition, liftoff, burnout, apogee, ejection.)*
- Name at least three individuals who played significant roles in rocketry and space flight history. *(Names might include: Jules Verne, Alan Shepard, Jr., John Glenn, Edward White II, Neil Armstrong, W. Young & Robert Crippen, Sally K. Ride, and Guion Bluford.)*

Student: _____

Parent: _____