

# A Ride in Space

## By Kate Paixão



Sally Ride always loved science and sports. In high school, she thought about becoming a tennis player. Her love of science won out, however. Ride went to college and studied physics, a branch of science.

In 1978, Ride saw an ad in a newspaper for an exciting job: astronaut! The position was at NASA, the United States government agency that runs the country's space program. Eight thousand college students applied. Only twenty-five were accepted. Sally Ride was one of them.

While training at NASA, Ride helped develop a robotic arm to use in space. She went on her first space shuttle trip on June 18, 1983. She was the first American woman to travel in space. Flying on a rocket was dangerous and difficult. It took courage to fly into space. But when Sally Ride returned to Earth from her six-day shuttle trip, she said, "It was the most fun I'll ever have in my life."

Ride left NASA in 1987 to teach science. She later started her own company, Sally Ride Science. She wanted to excite girls and boys about working as scientists.

Sally Ride's courage and dedication to science inspired people around the world.



# A Ride in Space

Kate Paixão  
(Adapted by ReadWorks)



Sally Ride always loved science and sports. She had thought about becoming a tennis player. But she loved science more than tennis. So she studied physics in college. Physics is a kind of science.

In 1978, Sally saw a newspaper ad for an exciting job. The job was working for NASA as an astronaut. NASA is in charge of the United States' space program. People working there study space. Eight thousand people tried to get the job, but only 25 did. Sally was one of them.

At NASA, Sally helped make a robotic arm to use in space. In 1983, she went on her first trip to space. To get there, she flew on a shuttle. This was dangerous and hard to do. Flying into space took courage. Sally was brave to do it. Even though it was dangerous, when Sally came back from her trip, she said, "It was the most fun I'll ever have in my life." She was the first American woman to go to space.

In 1987, Sally left her job at NASA to teach science. Later, she started her own company called Sally Ride Science. She wanted to get girls and boys excited about becoming scientists. She wanted to inspire them to study science.

By studying science and inspiring others to study it too, Sally showed dedication to science. Sally Ride's courage and dedication to science inspired people around the world.



# A Ride in Space

## Kate Paixão

### (Adapted by ReadWorks)



Sally Ride always loved science and sports. In high school, she thought about becoming a tennis player. But her love of science was stronger. She went to college and studied science.

In 1978, she saw an ad for an exciting job. The job was being an astronaut! The job was at NASA. That is the part of the United States government in charge of the space program. Lots of people applied to this job. Only 25 people got it. Ride was one of them.

When she was at NASA, Ride helped make a robot arm to use in space. In 1983, she went on her first trip into space. She was the first American woman to go into space. It took courage. Being on a rocket was dangerous and difficult. But when she got back to Earth, Ride said, "It was the most fun I'll ever have in my life."

She left NASA in 1987 to teach science. She later started her own company. It was called Sally Ride Science. She wanted to make children excited about working as scientists.

# THEORY OF THE EARTH

CHAPTER I

OF THE ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE EARTH



THE EARTH IS A SPHERE, AND ITS SURFACE IS COVERED BY A THIN LAYER OF WATER, WHICH IS CALLED THE OCEAN.

THE OCEAN IS DIVIDED INTO SEVERAL PARTS, WHICH ARE CALLED SEAS, BAYS, AND STRAITS.

THE EARTH IS COVERED BY A THIN LAYER OF AIR, WHICH IS CALLED THE ATMOSPHERE.

THE ATMOSPHERE IS DIVIDED INTO SEVERAL LAYERS.

THE EARTH IS COVERED BY A THIN LAYER OF SOIL, WHICH IS CALLED THE CRUST.

THE CRUST IS DIVIDED INTO SEVERAL PARTS, WHICH ARE CALLED CONTINENTS AND ISLANDS.

Ride was brave. She was also dedicated to science. Her courage and dedication have inspired people around the world. She has gotten them excited about science and space!





Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

1. What job did Sally Ride see an ad in the newspaper for?
  - A) teacher
  - B) scientist
  - C) astronaut
  
2. The article describes a sequence of events in the life of Sally Ride. Which event happens last?
  - A) Sally Ride helps develop a robotic arm to use in space.
  - B) Sally Ride starts her own company.
  - C) Sally Ride becomes the first American woman to travel in space.
  
3. Sally Ride always loved science.  
What evidence from the article supports this statement?
  - A) Sally Ride studied physics in college and became a science teacher in 1987.
  - B) When Sally Ride returned to Earth from her six-day shuttle trip, she said, "It was the most fun I'll ever have in my life."
  - C) In high school, Sally Ride thought about becoming a tennis player.
  
4. Sally Ride loved science and sports. Based on the information in the article, what else did she probably enjoy?
  - A) teaching
  - B) writing
  - C) reading
  
5. What is the main idea of this article?
  - A) Sally Ride started her own company to excite boys and girls about working as scientists.
  - B) Sally Ride's love of science led her to accomplish many things.
  - C) Sally Ride went on her first space shuttle trip on June 18, 1983.



6. Read this paragraph from the article.

"Sally Ride always loved science and sports. In high school, she thought about becoming a tennis player. Her love of science won out, however. Ride went to college and studied physics, a branch of science."

What does it mean that Sally Ride's love of science "won out"?

- A) Sally Ride won a science contest after losing a tennis game.
- B) Sally Ride thought about becoming a tennis player.
- C) Sally Ride chose to pursue science instead of sports.

7. Most of the students who applied to NASA were not accepted, \_\_\_\_\_ Sally Ride was.

- A) so
- B) because
- C) but

8. What was Sally Ride the first American woman to do?

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9. According to the article, what two things about Sally Ride inspired people around the world?

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10. Explain why Sally Ride might have inspired people around the world. Support your answer with at least one example from the article.

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