

FLIGHT PATCH

Every shuttle mission flown by NASA features a mission emblem designed by the crew. The emblem usually features the names of the astronauts as well as symbols and images that tell about the mission goals. At Challenger, your students may create their own flight patch and bring it with them to their mission. We will take a moment to recognize the patch and add it to our Wall of Fame. It becomes a nice way for your crew to leave their “flag” at the Challenger Center.

Your patch should:

- Tell something about the mission.
- Represent who is flying the mission.

- You may want to have each student design their own and vote on the best.
- Some teachers decide to have students team up to produce a patch.
- You may choose to copy the original and make laminated lanyards, photo ids, or badges from it. (Yarn works better than safety pins!)
- Any medium may be used.
- Please confine the size to smaller than posterboard.



51-L Challenger Mission Patch

This patch symbolizes the mission of shuttle flight 51-L, to fly, to explore, and to teach. The shuttle, being launched from the United States of America, encircles the planet to signify its U.S. presence in space to explore new frontiers. The shuttle in flight with open cargo doors represents the 51-L mission to launch a communication satellite (TDRSS), to collect data from Comet Halley, and to conduct scientific experiments. The apple next to the teacher's name signifies the educational mission of the crew to touch the future through lessons taught in space. The scene is encircled by the surnames of the crew members. They were astronauts Frances R. (Dick) Scobee, Commander; Michael J. Smith, pilot; Ron McNair, Ellison Onizuka and Judy Resnik, all mission specialists; Greg Jarvis, payload specialist; and Christa McAuliffe, teacher.

STS – 107 Columbia Mission Patch

The central element of the STS-107 design, shaped in the form of a Shuttle Orbiter, is the microgravity symbol (ug) following into the rays of the astronaut symbol. The sunrise is representative of the numerous experiments that are the dawn of a new era for continued microgravity research on the ISS and beyond. Seen at the bottom left of the emblem is the constellation Columbia (the dove) that was chosen to symbolize peace on Earth and the Space Shuttle Columbia. The seven stars also represent each of the crewmembers and honor the original first seven astronauts that paved the way to make research in space possible.

