

IAF SPACE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH SYMPOSIUM (E1)
Interactive Presentations - IAF SPACE EDUCATION AND OUTREACH SYMPOSIUM (IP)

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SPACE FOR SPACE

Abstract

SPACE FOR SPACE (SPAZIO ALLO SPAZIO)

Space for Space is an educational project active since 2010 involving students aged 5 to 18 of the Italian school Istituto Comprensivo Villasanta. This project was launched by a group of teachers who believe Space exploration and Sky observation can be an efficient way to convey the idea that the extraordinary experience of the astronaut, who on the ISS must acquire new skills and be able to dominate a challenging and unpredictable context, is just like a disabled person's routine in daily life.

Space exploration, among which Astronomy and Astronautics, is used to promote values of sustainability, equity and diversity, allowing the students to become acquainted with the world of astronauts while facing topics related to integration and disability. As astronauts experience the limits of gravity and disability in Space, students can face their limits, through adapted physical activity and authentic tasks, addressing issues related to the integration and insertion of people with different skills in school and society.

This is the starting point for lessons, cultural exchanges, laboratorial and teamwork experiences through an interdisciplinary and multilingual approach. Lectures and meetings with experts from different fields promote the development of scientific, technological and humanistic skills. Students are guided in their career orientation and encouraged to recognize personal aptitudes and to think about their future.

With online learning such as video conferencing, the project brings the world of research into the classroom and connects students into one space, providing a stimulating learning experience where collaboration grows from the local to the planetary level. This helps students to understand how they can contribute to the building of the future as responsible global citizens, aware of the reality in which they live and the impact that they can produce.

Space for Space allows the school to open to the world around it. In contact with other realities and contexts, it offers stimulating opportunities, that care about the individuality of each person and value Science as the link to improve human relationships and commitment.