

Guide for Mission Day: LEAD MISSION RELATIONS MANAGER

(Teacher who HAS attended workshop)

Mission Simulations are an immersive, real-world experience, no two are identical.

Missions encourage:

- Critical Thinking
- Persistence
- Collaboration
- Applying Past Knowledge and Skill
- Informed Problem Solving
- Effective Communication

The following suggestions are provided to help you take this unique opportunity to watch your crew exhibit resourcefulness and take responsibility for their learning.

1. If a child seems confused, please remember, the first step in learning is often confusion. As the mission progresses, they will adjust and will have the chance to think things over, talk to their crewmates, and search for answers. They WILL figure out whatever they need to do, and they will leave with a “can do” attitude that will help them as they continue to take on new challenges every day.
Your crew will be successful!
2. Your LEAD MISSION RELATIONS MANAGER role in the mission is both critical and unobtrusive at the same time. Your physical presence in the simulators, and taking interest in the mission, is critical to your crew’s success. Participants feed off the attitude of the adults in the room. We aren’t looking for cheerleaders, but just knowing that you are there, actively observing, makes a big difference.
3. **Please hesitate before engaging a crew member** (student). You will note that the Challenger Commanders are sometimes intentionally slow to react to a crew member’s question. They are waiting to see if the participant will try to solve their own issues, rather than depend on adults. If you do speak with a crew member, we request that you simply ask what task they are on and redirect them to follow the procedures in their task cards.
4. During the mission we recommend that you take photographs, which is another way to be engaged, while staying somewhat removed. Photos can provide you with great documentation of the day’s events that many groups later use for a webpage, bulletin board, school paper, yearbook, slideshow, or debrief session. We encourage you to share your photos with us as well: contact@astronaut.org.
5. To aid with your post-mission debrief and future integration of mission concepts, skills, and strategies, feel free to use the back of this sheet to make notes of topics addressed and concepts that you plan to reinforce after mission day.
6. Please provide feedback! During the second half of the mission, we will ask you to complete an online teacher survey, which is vital to ensuring that we are meeting your expectations.

We are happy to have you here with us! Enjoy the experience!