

# International Spacelab

The year's first shuttle mission will carry Europe's Spacelab on a seven day mission to test scientific theories that require the absence of gravity. Over 200 scientists from 13 countries will participate in the experiments performed by the scientists aboard Spacelab

Over 40 experiments in physics, biology and medicine include:  
growing plants in micro-gravity;  
calculating hazards of cosmic rays on humans;  
growing near-perfect crystal structures such as the cancer drug interferon;  
making superconductors in space;  
monitoring effects of reduced gravity on slime mould

Three crew members fly shuttle

Four scientists work in pressurised Spacelab

Circular orbit, 296km above earth. Nose inclined at 57° reduces need to use thrusters which would disturb experiments

Tunnel links Spacelab with main cabin where scientists eat and sleep

'Torture chamber' experiment measures responses of crew members to extreme disorientation

