



SOUND BITES

NASA
PEOPLE &
CAREERS

INSIGHTS

1

00:00:02,480 --> 00:00:08,080

Tell everybody about your dreams and passions. I\h
think when we share our passions with the world\h\h

2

00:00:08,880 --> 00:00:12,160

and with others, opportunities come our way.

3

00:00:15,760 --> 00:00:20,880

My name is Dr. Yajaira Sierra-Sastre and I am\h
an engineering project manager at NASA Glenn.\h\h

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00:00:20,880 --> 00:00:28,320

I lead the Mars spring tire team. This is\h
the team responsible for the design and build\h\h

5

00:00:28,320 --> 00:00:34,320

of the sample fetch rover tires and wheel\h
assemblies for the rover that we will be\h\h

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00:00:34,320 --> 00:00:40,320

sending to Mars to catch those samples that\h
Perseverance Rover is collecting right now.\h

7

00:00:40,320 --> 00:00:46,240

I had this opportunity to live for four months on\h
top of a volcano. It was a dream come true. It was\h\h

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00:00:46,240 --> 00:00:54,160

my first time contributing to NASA projects\h
and live my childhood dream of like being an\h\h

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00:00:54,160 --> 00:01:02,160

astronaut for four months without escaping Earth.\h
It's a huge responsibility but I love interacting\h\h

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00:01:02,160 --> 00:01:08,880

with students. I love inspiring them and I see\h
how, you know, what I am doing really impacts\h\h

11

00:01:08,880 --> 00:01:17,600

my community as a source of inspiration for others\h
to follow and as they see themselves represented.\h

12

00:01:18,560 --> 00:01:24,080

What would be on my bucket list? I would like\h
to become a pilot. I would like to be able to\h\h

13

00:01:24,080 --> 00:01:29,840

learn and I would like to learn to to fly the\h
plane so that's in my bucket list at the moment.\h

14

00:01:30,800 --> 00:01:35,120

Recently, I started doing rock\h
climbing and I am loving it .\h

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00:01:35,120 --> 00:01:40,320

I am originally from Puerto Rico. \h
come from a very big family of five\h\h

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00:01:40,320 --> 00:01:48,080

sisters. I am the only scientist in the family.
My mother, a very hard worker, woman that never\h\h

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00:01:48,080 --> 00:01:55,600

gives up, a person that was there when I needed\h
it the most to remind me that I should not give\h\h

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00:01:55,600 --> 00:02:02,080

up and I should keep working hard for my dreams.
English as the second language. I learned\h\h

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00:02:02,080 --> 00:02:06,640

English as an adult, so that's a\h
challenge that I had to overcome.\h

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00:02:06,640 --> 00:02:11,280

That moment when I was five years old when my\h
dad woke me up in the middle of the night to go\h\h

21

00:02:11,280 --> 00:02:18,720

and look at the stars in the night sky. That moment really instilled in me this curiosity

22

00:02:18,720 --> 00:02:23,920

I have for science, this curiosity I have about the universe. It was a very special moment for