



**CHECKING IN WITH
THE 2017
ASTRONAUT CANDIDATE
CLASS, PT. 2**

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:08,470

[Music]

2
00:00:11,749 --> 00:00:10,230

the first six months we're really

3
00:00:14,310 --> 00:00:11,759

getting our feet under us just getting

4
00:00:15,509 --> 00:00:14,320

to know one another really doing mostly

5
00:00:18,390 --> 00:00:15,519

classroom

6
00:00:19,830 --> 00:00:18,400

type training next six months has really

7
00:00:21,670 --> 00:00:19,840

picked up the pace a lot and we've

8
00:00:23,910 --> 00:00:21,680

covered so many different things

9
00:00:25,910 --> 00:00:23,920

everything from learning to do space

10
00:00:27,830 --> 00:00:25,920

walks in the neutral buoyancy lab a

11
00:00:30,230 --> 00:00:27,840

giant swimming pool the first dives were

12
00:00:31,750 --> 00:00:30,240

incredible the team of people that work

13
00:00:33,990 --> 00:00:31,760

at the neutral buoyancy laboratory are

14

00:00:35,430 --> 00:00:34,000

amazing they work really hard to make it

15

00:00:37,670 --> 00:00:35,440

as much like space as possible like

16

00:00:39,670 --> 00:00:37,680

doing a real space walk getting in the

17

00:00:41,910 --> 00:00:39,680

suit for the first time was just really

18

00:00:43,430 --> 00:00:41,920

surreal we get into the suit you get

19

00:00:44,869 --> 00:00:43,440

pressurized it's really cool experience

20

00:00:47,990 --> 00:00:44,879

to finally get in that spacesuit for the

21

00:00:49,910 --> 00:00:48,000

first time totally unreal i remember

22

00:00:52,150 --> 00:00:49,920

being in the pool and looking at my

23

00:00:54,470 --> 00:00:52,160

hands and they have actual spacesuit

24

00:00:56,470 --> 00:00:54,480

gloves on and just thinking this

25

00:00:58,310 --> 00:00:56,480

couldn't possibly be real life

26

00:01:00,950 --> 00:00:58,320

we went to new mexico to study geology

27

00:01:02,709 --> 00:01:00,960

but first of all we spent a week here at

28

00:01:04,710 --> 00:01:02,719

johnson space center working with

29

00:01:06,390 --> 00:01:04,720

incredible group of phds that taught us

30

00:01:08,950 --> 00:01:06,400

geology very intense

31

00:01:12,390 --> 00:01:08,960

week-long class we went on to the upper

32

00:01:13,429 --> 00:01:12,400

gorge region of the rio grande del norte

33

00:01:15,429 --> 00:01:13,439

and

34

00:01:17,190 --> 00:01:15,439

for that it was really cool because we

35

00:01:19,510 --> 00:01:17,200

went to a region that had a lot of

36

00:01:21,350 --> 00:01:19,520

volcanic activity and we're basically

37

00:01:23,670 --> 00:01:21,360

trying to piece together the story of

38

00:01:26,230 --> 00:01:23,680

how how that region formed we were

39

00:01:28,149 --> 00:01:26,240

broken up into teams and we got to

40

00:01:30,230 --> 00:01:28,159

actually go out and map different

41

00:01:32,469 --> 00:01:30,240

structures in the fields pick up rocks

42

00:01:34,149 --> 00:01:32,479

break them open with a hammer and

43

00:01:35,030 --> 00:01:34,159

actually form our own hypotheses and

44

00:01:36,630 --> 00:01:35,040

then

45

00:01:38,390 --> 00:01:36,640

set about trying to explore them it was

46

00:01:40,390 --> 00:01:38,400

a really great experience

47

00:01:41,990 --> 00:01:40,400

ksc trip was incredible getting out

48

00:01:43,830 --> 00:01:42,000

there and for me the first time to get

49

00:01:45,270 --> 00:01:43,840

to go out and touch rockets it was

50

00:01:47,910 --> 00:01:45,280

really incredible get to see capsules we

51
00:01:49,990 --> 00:01:47,920
got the ccst 100 we got to see spacex

52
00:01:51,830 --> 00:01:50,000
for me i had never been there before

53
00:01:53,990 --> 00:01:51,840
this is you know the site where we've

54
00:01:56,230 --> 00:01:54,000
launched so many incredibly important

55
00:01:58,630 --> 00:01:56,240
missions through nasa's history i had

56
00:02:00,950 --> 00:01:58,640
been there back in 2006 for a shuttle

57
00:02:02,550 --> 00:02:00,960
launch and to be back almost 12 years

58
00:02:04,469 --> 00:02:02,560
later as we're getting ready for

59
00:02:06,149 --> 00:02:04,479
commercial crew to launch from cape

60
00:02:08,150 --> 00:02:06,159
canaveral again you could sense the

61
00:02:10,790 --> 00:02:08,160
excitement building and anticipation for

62
00:02:12,949 --> 00:02:10,800
that so that was really cool to see and

63
00:02:15,270 --> 00:02:12,959

it was really exciting for me to see

64

00:02:17,110 --> 00:02:15,280

just how alive it really is today all of

65

00:02:19,190 --> 00:02:17,120

the different vehicles that are being

66

00:02:20,790 --> 00:02:19,200

built and being launched right there at

67

00:02:22,390 --> 00:02:20,800

kennedy

68

00:02:25,110 --> 00:02:22,400

the land survival trip

69

00:02:27,190 --> 00:02:25,120

we went to maine for that where the

70

00:02:30,390 --> 00:02:27,200

military does their survival training as

71

00:02:33,030 --> 00:02:30,400

well and that entailed a lot of learning

72

00:02:35,430 --> 00:02:33,040

things like land navigation how to build

73

00:02:37,430 --> 00:02:35,440

shelters but it was also especially

74

00:02:39,430 --> 00:02:37,440

important for team building and group

75

00:02:40,869 --> 00:02:39,440

dynamics it was a great way to bond with

76

00:02:43,509 --> 00:02:40,879

the whole group

77

00:02:45,670 --> 00:02:43,519

a few of us have also gotten a chance to

78

00:02:48,070 --> 00:02:45,680

work at ellington field doing field

79

00:02:50,869 --> 00:02:48,080

maintenance it's called so

80

00:02:53,350 --> 00:02:50,879

using the t-38 as a way to train on

81

00:02:56,390 --> 00:02:53,360

mechanical tools doing repairs learning

82

00:02:58,149 --> 00:02:56,400

things like sheet metal work and just

83

00:03:00,790 --> 00:02:58,159

generally getting to know also some of

84

00:03:02,710 --> 00:03:00,800

the mechanics at ellington field

85

00:03:04,309 --> 00:03:02,720

on friday i have my first what would we

86

00:03:06,390 --> 00:03:04,319

call an integrated mastery so it's going

87

00:03:08,470 --> 00:03:06,400

to be me in the mockups behind us with a

88

00:03:10,630 --> 00:03:08,480

group of 20 to 30 instructors as i go

89

00:03:12,390 --> 00:03:10,640

through my first exam first major exam

90

00:03:14,470 --> 00:03:12,400

for the international space station

91

00:03:16,309 --> 00:03:14,480

across the board one of my favorite

92

00:03:18,710 --> 00:03:16,319

parts of this job has been getting to

93

00:03:21,589 --> 00:03:18,720

know my other classmates everyone is so

94

00:03:23,589 --> 00:03:21,599

collaborative really working together to

95

00:03:25,990 --> 00:03:23,599

lift each other up and

96

00:03:28,149 --> 00:03:26,000

building on each other's strong points

97

00:03:30,070 --> 00:03:28,159

this group has been incredibly close and

98

00:03:32,070 --> 00:03:30,080

every single one of us

99

00:03:33,910 --> 00:03:32,080

adds a lot of value to the team and i

100

00:03:42,060 --> 00:03:33,920

think that's been one of the best parts

101

00:03:51,530 --> 00:03:48,949

[Music]