



1  
00:00:20,790 --> 00:00:19,510  
welcome to the nasa lewis research

2  
00:00:23,429 --> 00:00:20,800  
center

3  
00:00:23,990 --> 00:00:23,439  
louis originally an aircraft propulsion

4  
00:00:26,550 --> 00:00:24,000  
lab

5  
00:00:29,589 --> 00:00:26,560  
was one of the original nasa centers

6  
00:00:31,910 --> 00:00:29,599  
with the start of the space race in 1958

7  
00:00:33,030 --> 00:00:31,920  
lewis became nasa's lead center for

8  
00:00:36,389 --> 00:00:33,040  
space propulsion

9  
00:00:37,510 --> 00:00:36,399  
power and communications lewis's science

10  
00:00:39,430 --> 00:00:37,520  
and technology

11  
00:00:41,430 --> 00:00:39,440  
has been critical to putting a man on

12  
00:00:43,350 --> 00:00:41,440  
the moon and the development of the

13  
00:00:46,310 --> 00:00:43,360

space shuttle

14

00:00:47,990 --> 00:00:46,320

today lewis is also a lead center for

15

00:00:50,150 --> 00:00:48,000

microgravity sciences

16

00:00:52,069 --> 00:00:50,160

and is responsible for the power system

17

00:00:53,910 --> 00:00:52,079

of the space station

18

00:00:55,510 --> 00:00:53,920

during your visit you'll have the

19

00:00:58,549 --> 00:00:55,520

opportunity to learn about

20

00:01:02,069 --> 00:00:58,559

our aeronautics and space programs

21

00:01:05,670 --> 00:01:02,079

from experimental high performance jets

22

00:01:07,830 --> 00:01:05,680

to space shuttles and the space station

23

00:01:08,870 --> 00:01:07,840

unfortunately you won't be able to

24

00:01:11,190 --> 00:01:08,880

experience how

25

00:01:12,789 --> 00:01:11,200

our pilots and astronauts feel in these

26

00:01:14,390 --> 00:01:12,799

dynamic environments

27

00:01:17,270 --> 00:01:14,400

but there may be a way you can

28

00:01:19,590 --> 00:01:17,280

experience some of the sensations

29

00:01:20,310 --> 00:01:19,600

the cedar point amusement park and nasa

30

00:01:22,149 --> 00:01:20,320

lewis have

31

00:01:24,550 --> 00:01:22,159

teamed up to show you how your

32

00:01:25,670 --> 00:01:24,560

experiences within 200 feet of the

33

00:01:28,789 --> 00:01:25,680

earth's surface

34

00:01:29,910 --> 00:01:28,799

relate to activities 200 miles above the

35

00:01:32,950 --> 00:01:29,920

earth

36

00:01:35,190 --> 00:01:32,960

located 60 miles northwest of lewis

37

00:01:37,429 --> 00:01:35,200

cedar point has many rides on which you

38

00:01:40,230 --> 00:01:37,439

can challenge the laws of nature

39

00:01:41,510 --> 00:01:40,240

as you speed around corners and fly

40

00:01:45,109 --> 00:01:41,520

through the air

41

00:01:47,190 --> 00:01:45,119

at times seeming to defy gravity

42

00:01:48,469 --> 00:01:47,200

some of these rides create environments

43

00:01:50,469 --> 00:01:48,479

identical to those

44

00:01:52,310 --> 00:01:50,479

experienced by high performance jet

45

00:01:54,310 --> 00:01:52,320

pilots and astronauts

46

00:01:55,990 --> 00:01:54,320

the only difference is the length of

47

00:01:57,350 --> 00:01:56,000

time you are in these thrilling

48

00:01:59,429 --> 00:01:57,360

environments

49

00:02:01,510 --> 00:01:59,439

let's explore some of the similarities

50

00:02:04,550 --> 00:02:01,520

between amusement park rides

51

00:02:05,830 --> 00:02:04,560

and space flight keeping your

52

00:02:07,670 --> 00:02:05,840

orientation while

53

00:02:10,869 --> 00:02:07,680

spinning around on rides like the

54

00:02:13,030 --> 00:02:10,879

witch's wheel can be a difficult task

55

00:02:14,710 --> 00:02:13,040

this was also difficult for the mercury

56

00:02:17,589 --> 00:02:14,720

seven america's first

57

00:02:18,550 --> 00:02:17,599

astronauts to see if these men had the

58

00:02:20,869 --> 00:02:18,560

right stuff

59

00:02:23,270 --> 00:02:20,879

they came to nasa lewis to train in the

60

00:02:24,710 --> 00:02:23,280

multiple axis space test inertia

61

00:02:28,390 --> 00:02:24,720

facility

62

00:02:32,710 --> 00:02:28,400

the what that's multiple

63

00:02:36,070 --> 00:02:32,720

more than one axis a real or imaginary

64

00:02:40,070 --> 00:02:36,080

straight line on which an object rotates

65

00:02:43,350 --> 00:02:40,080

space you mean like outer space

66

00:02:45,430 --> 00:02:43,360

yes test

67

00:02:48,830 --> 00:02:45,440

can you do that again i think i forgot

68

00:02:55,990 --> 00:02:52,470

inertia how do you stop this thing

69

00:02:57,190 --> 00:02:56,000

facility just down the midway behind the

70

00:03:00,949 --> 00:02:57,200

merry-go-round

71

00:03:04,309 --> 00:03:00,959

not that kind as another example

72

00:03:06,070 --> 00:03:04,319

if you take a ride on the magnum xl 200

73

00:03:08,869 --> 00:03:06,080

you'll notice that at the bottom of the

74

00:03:11,030 --> 00:03:08,879

first hill you'll feel heavier

75

00:03:11,990 --> 00:03:11,040

typically about three or four times

76

00:03:13,830 --> 00:03:12,000

heavier

77

00:03:15,670 --> 00:03:13,840

that's because the seat of the roller

78

00:03:18,070 --> 00:03:15,680

coaster is pushing you back up

79

00:03:18,949 --> 00:03:18,080

so that you can climb the next hill

80

00:03:20,790 --> 00:03:18,959

that's the same

81

00:03:22,550 --> 00:03:20,800

feeling the space shuttle astronauts

82

00:03:24,550 --> 00:03:22,560

have during a launch

83

00:03:25,750 --> 00:03:24,560

in order to get up enough speed to get

84

00:03:27,830 --> 00:03:25,760

into space

85

00:03:30,390 --> 00:03:27,840

the shuttle must accelerate at about

86

00:03:32,710 --> 00:03:30,400

four times the force of gravity

87

00:03:35,750 --> 00:03:32,720

the difference is this lasts for over

88

00:03:38,390 --> 00:03:35,760

eight minutes when you're an astronaut

89

00:03:39,030 --> 00:03:38,400

perhaps the most obvious similarity is

90

00:03:41,830 --> 00:03:39,040

for those

91

00:03:42,550 --> 00:03:41,840

brave enough to go on the demon drop

92

00:03:45,830 --> 00:03:42,560

this ride

93

00:03:48,149 --> 00:03:45,840

sends its occupants into a brief

94

00:03:50,869 --> 00:03:48,159

from the rider's point of view gravity

95

00:03:53,030 --> 00:03:50,879

seems to be suspended as they rise up

96

00:03:55,190 --> 00:03:53,040

from their seats

97

00:03:58,390 --> 00:03:55,200

this brief experience for demon drop

98

00:04:00,390 --> 00:03:58,400

riders is the way of life for astronauts

99

00:04:01,589 --> 00:04:00,400

shuttle crews have stayed in orbit for

100

00:04:03,670 --> 00:04:01,599

two weeks

101  
00:04:05,830 --> 00:04:03,680  
while space station crews will live and

102  
00:04:07,030 --> 00:04:05,840  
work in space for several months at a

103  
00:04:08,949 --> 00:04:07,040  
time

104  
00:04:13,190 --> 00:04:08,959  
this puts a whole new meaning to the

105  
00:04:16,229 --> 00:04:15,429  
let's look at why what you feel on the

106  
00:04:18,469 --> 00:04:16,239  
demon drop

107  
00:04:20,629 --> 00:04:18,479  
is so similar to what the astronauts

108  
00:04:22,870 --> 00:04:20,639  
experience in space

109  
00:04:24,790 --> 00:04:22,880  
if an astronaut releases an apple on

110  
00:04:26,950 --> 00:04:24,800  
earth it falls

111  
00:04:28,629 --> 00:04:26,960  
when he releases an apple on the space

112  
00:04:31,110 --> 00:04:28,639  
shuttle it falls too

113  
00:04:32,070 --> 00:04:31,120

it just doesn't look like it's falling

114

00:04:34,950 --> 00:04:32,080

that's because

115

00:04:35,909 --> 00:04:34,960

they are all falling together the apple

116

00:04:38,469 --> 00:04:35,919

the astronaut

117

00:04:39,749 --> 00:04:38,479

and the orbiter but they aren't falling

118

00:04:42,870 --> 00:04:39,759

towards the earth

119

00:04:44,629 --> 00:04:42,880

they're falling around it

120

00:04:48,150 --> 00:04:44,639

let's imagine that we put another

121

00:04:50,230 --> 00:04:48,160

astronaut on an elevator on earth

122

00:04:51,909 --> 00:04:50,240

the elevator is going to the top of a

123

00:04:54,310 --> 00:04:51,919

very tall building

124

00:04:55,670 --> 00:04:54,320

suddenly when he reaches the top the

125

00:04:57,990 --> 00:04:55,680

cable breaks

126  
00:04:59,909 --> 00:04:58,000  
the elevator car with the astronaut in

127  
00:05:02,629 --> 00:04:59,919  
it begins to fall

128  
00:05:03,029 --> 00:05:02,639  
what will happen inside the elevator

129  
00:05:05,110 --> 00:05:03,039  
well

130  
00:05:06,550 --> 00:05:05,120  
since he's falling and the elevator is

131  
00:05:09,430 --> 00:05:06,560  
falling at the same rate

132  
00:05:11,350 --> 00:05:09,440  
he starts to float his body isn't

133  
00:05:12,310 --> 00:05:11,360  
pushing on the inside of the elevator

134  
00:05:15,350 --> 00:05:12,320  
anymore

135  
00:05:17,270 --> 00:05:15,360  
he has no weight he's weightless

136  
00:05:19,590 --> 00:05:17,280  
if he had an apple with him it would

137  
00:05:20,390 --> 00:05:19,600  
float too just like the one in the

138  
00:05:22,550 --> 00:05:20,400

shuttle

139

00:05:25,510 --> 00:05:22,560

because the astronaut the apple and the

140

00:05:28,150 --> 00:05:25,520

elevator would all be falling together

141

00:05:30,150 --> 00:05:28,160

it would be a fun ride until he hit the

142

00:05:32,310 --> 00:05:30,160

bottom

143

00:05:33,189 --> 00:05:32,320

and that's why things float around in

144

00:05:35,909 --> 00:05:33,199

space

145

00:05:38,870 --> 00:05:35,919

because they all fall on a curved path

146

00:05:41,350 --> 00:05:38,880

around the earth

147

00:05:42,469 --> 00:05:41,360

back at nasa lewis researchers have been

148

00:05:44,870 --> 00:05:42,479

using a facility

149

00:05:46,710 --> 00:05:44,880

similar to the demon drop for over 30

150

00:05:48,710 --> 00:05:46,720

years to conduct experiments

151  
00:05:51,909 --> 00:05:48,720  
in the low gravity environment of free

152  
00:05:53,830 --> 00:05:51,919  
fall the basic design and concept is the

153  
00:05:56,870 --> 00:05:53,840  
same as that of the demon drop

154  
00:05:58,710 --> 00:05:56,880  
they are almost the same size too one

155  
00:06:01,350 --> 00:05:58,720  
difference between the demon drop

156  
00:06:02,629 --> 00:06:01,360  
and the lewis drop tower is the use of a

157  
00:06:04,790 --> 00:06:02,639  
drag shield

158  
00:06:07,270 --> 00:06:04,800  
the external cover which eliminates the

159  
00:06:09,749 --> 00:06:07,280  
effects of wind resistance

160  
00:06:11,110 --> 00:06:09,759  
the experiment actually falls within the

161  
00:06:13,990 --> 00:06:11,120  
falling drag shield

162  
00:06:14,710 --> 00:06:14,000  
to create a pure low gravity environment

163  
00:06:16,790 --> 00:06:14,720

about one

164

00:06:17,990 --> 00:06:16,800

one hundred thousands of normal earth

165

00:06:20,070 --> 00:06:18,000

gravity

166

00:06:22,150 --> 00:06:20,080

this environment lets scientists at

167

00:06:24,870 --> 00:06:22,160

lewis get high fidelity data

168

00:06:27,430 --> 00:06:24,880

on low gravity processes and sneak

169

00:06:29,990 --> 00:06:27,440

previews of shuttle experiments

170

00:06:32,150 --> 00:06:30,000

from a rider's point of view the smooth

171

00:06:34,150 --> 00:06:32,160

slope at the bottom of the demon drop is

172

00:06:36,309 --> 00:06:34,160

much more comfortable than the sudden

173

00:06:40,710 --> 00:06:36,319

stop in the sand pit at the bottom of

174

00:06:44,710 --> 00:06:42,870

we have shown you just a small portion

175

00:06:47,029 --> 00:06:44,720

of nasa's space program

176

00:06:49,350 --> 00:06:47,039

which overlaps with your experiences at

177

00:06:51,430 --> 00:06:49,360

amusement parks like cedar point

178

00:06:53,909 --> 00:06:51,440

we hope you enjoy the rest of your visit

179

00:06:55,909 --> 00:06:53,919

here at the nasa lewis research center

180

00:06:58,469 --> 00:06:55,919

and the next time you visit an amusement

181

00:07:01,990 --> 00:06:58,479

park let your imagination

182

00:07:14,830 --> 00:07:02,000

take you to the edge and dream of