Space Mysteries!

Thanks for playing and testing Space Mysteries! Please follow these simple instructions.

There are two Space Mystery! games to play: Live from 2-Alpha and Alien Bandstand. Alien Bandstand is an open-ended game with no time limits and Live from 2-Alpha has a timed sequence. Please read over the Questionnaire before you play the game so you have an idea of what to be watching for and what to do when. Fill out the Pre-game questions before starting! Print out the work and results from your games and include them with the Questionnaire. Thanks!

CD ROM Version

Insert the Space Mysteries CD into your computer, open the CD, click on "Start Here" and click on "Play the Game" to play the game! Follow directions and be sure to print out all your work after you play the game. You can not SAVE your work on the CD ROM version of the game so be sure to print out your work before you quit the game!

ON Line Version

Go to: http://mystery.sonoma.edu

Click on the game and follow all directions. Be sure to save your work and print it out when you are done playing the games

Have Fun!!
Space Mysteries! Questionnaire
Pre-Play Questions (To be filled out before playing the game!)

User Background Information (circle your answers)

Grade Level:  8  9  10  11  12  
Sex: Female Male

Math Courses Taken: Algebra Trigonometry Geometry Calculus

Science Courses Taken: Biology Chemistry Physics Astronomy

Interest in Astronomy (circle the one that best describes your interest)

Future Astronomer (plans to become an astronomer or astrophysicist!)

Avid Amateur Astronomer (owns telescope, regularly reads books or magazines on astronomy, visits astronomy websites and/or goes to star parties)

Informed Casual Enthusiast (enjoys star watching, casually reads or listens to astronomy news, knows some constellations and watches major astronomical events like meteor showers and eclipses)

Casual Observer (enjoys star watching and learning about astronomy when it is presented to them but doesn't seek out information or events on their own)

Anti-Astronomer (stars, planets, black holes are boring! Astronomy sucks!)

What 5 topics interest you the most in Astronomy? (circle 5)

Asteroids Comets Black Holes Cosmic Rays Super Novas Eclipses
Planets Solar System Space Weather Life on Mars Constellations Pulsars
Quasars Extrasolar Planets Galaxies Telescopes Cosmology Big Bang

What other topics in Astronomy are you interested in? Briefly list them.

Game Playing (circle the best fit)

How much do you like playing computer/video games? Very Much! A little! Not at all!

How often do you play computer/video games? Every Day! Weekly Rarely Never

How would you rate yourself as a player/critic? Expert Intermediate Novice Beginner
Space Mysteries! Play Questions (To be filled out while playing the game!) While you are playing the game, take notes on any activity or feature or problem you may have. Use extra paper if you need and staple it on. Pay special attention to the control panel buttons and devices, the alerts and the challenges. If you have equations to solve, you can them here.

Check the game you are playing: Live From 2-Alpha _____ Alien Bandstand _____

Start Time: ______________________  End Time: ______________________
Space Mysteries! Alien Bandstand Questionnaire

Post-Play Questions (To be filled out after playing the game!)

Use your notes and launch the game (you don't have to play it) to answer the following.

Instructions
Were the instructions of the game clear?  Yes  No  other: ___________________

Was it obvious how to play?  Yes  No  other: ___________________

Did you use help?  Yes  No  other: ___________________

Comments:

Videos
Did you watch the videos in the Mailbox?  Yes  No  other: ___________________
Did you find them useful, interesting, and/or entertaining? Explain:

Did you watch the videos in the Encyclopedia?  Yes  No  other: ___________________
Did you find them useful, interesting, and/or entertaining? Explain:

Sounds
Were the sounds of the astronomical objects clear? Did they make sense?  Yes  No
Explain:

Questions
Were the questions clear?  Yes  No  other: ___________________

Did you actually solve the questions or guess at them?  Solved  Guessed  Both

If you didn't know the answer a question, how did you find it?
Were you able to solve for the Mystery sound? How did you do it?

Describe the usefulness of the following. What did you like or not like? How did you use them?

X-Ray Telescope

Optical Telescope

Radio Telescope

Rate the Game   On a scale from 1 to 10 with 1 being the lowest  and 10 highest,

Rate the characters in the videos:

   (Lame)  1   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   10  (COOL!)

Rate your interest in the videos from Alien Bandstand:

   (Boring) 1   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   10  (Interesting!)

Rate the difficulty level of playing Alien Bandstand:

   (Easy)  1   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   10  (Difficult)

Rate your overall enjoyment of the Alien Bandstand:

   (No Fun)  1   2   3   4   5   6   7   8   9   10  (Totally Fun!)
If your favorite video game were rated as a 10, how would you rate *Alien Bandstand*?

1  2  3  4  5  6  7  8  9  10

Overall, what did you think of the game? (Circle all that apply)

Fun  Interesting  Lame  Exciting  Boring  Inspiring
Easy  Difficult  Too Easy  Too Difficult  Intuitive  Confusing

**Explain:**

How would you improve *Alien Bandstand*?

*Astronomy*  What did you learn about astronomy from playing the game? Briefly describe a few new things about astronomy you learned from playing the game. Use more paper if you need.
**Space Mysteries! Live From 2-Alpha Questionnaire**

Post-Play Questions (To be filled out *after* playing the game!)

Use your notes and launch the game (you don't have to play it) to answer the following.

**Instructions**

Were the instructions of the game clear?  
Yes  No  other: ___________________

Was it obvious how to play?  
Yes  No  other: ___________________

Did you read the text of the video?  
Yes  No  other: ___________________

Did you like Captain Andromeda?  
Yes  No  other: ___________________

Comments:

**Alerts**

Were the alerts clear?  
Yes  No  other: ___________________

Did you read the text of the alert video?  
Yes  No  other: ___________________

Did you like Parnell?  
Yes  No  other: ___________________

Comments:

**Challenges**  
How far did you get through the game?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Challenge 1</th>
<th>Challenge 2</th>
<th>Challenge 3</th>
<th>Challenge 4</th>
<th>Finished!</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Were the Challenges clear?  
Yes  No  other: ___________________

Which Challenge did you enjoy the most?  
1  2  3  4  5

Did you actually solve the challenges or guess at them?  
Solved  Guessed  Both

If you didn't know the answer to the challenge, how did you find it?

Were you able to solve for the escape velocity? How did you do it?
Describe the usefulness of the following. What did you like or not like? How did you use them?

Gravity Detector

Optical Telescope

Radiation Detector

Rate the Game     On a scale from 1 to 10 with 1 being the lowest and 10 highest,

Rate the characters in the videos:

(Lame) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (COOL!)

Rate your interest in the challenges from Live From 2-Alpha:

(Boring) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (Interesting!)

Rate the difficulty level of playing Live From 2-Alpha:

(Easy) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (Difficult)

Rate your overall enjoyment of the Live From 2-Alpha:

(No Fun) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 (Totally Fun!)

If your favorite video game were rated as a 10, how would you rate Live From 2-Alpha?

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Comments of your Ratings:
Astronomy  What did you learn about astronomy from playing the game? Briefly describe a few new things about astronomy you learned from playing the game. Use more paper if you need.

Overall, what did you think of the game?  (Circle all that apply)

Fun     Interesting     Lame     Exciting     Boring     Inspiring
Easy     Difficult     Too Easy     Too Difficult     Intuitive     Confusing

Explain:

How would you improve *Live from 2-Alpha*?
Space Mysteries! Post-Play Questions (To be filled out after playing the game!)
Use your notes and launch the game (you don't have to play it) to answer the following.

Rate the Control Panel: On a scale from 1 to 10 with 1 being the lowest and 10 highest,

Easy to Use: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Difficult

What features did you find most useful on the Control Panel:
Glossary Help Calculator Encyclopedia Mailbox Notebook

What features did you find least useful on the Control Panel:
Glossary Help Calculator Encyclopedia Mailbox Notebook

Explain:

What suggestions can you make to improve the Control Panel?

What astronomy subjects would you like to explore in future Space Mysteries?
Techno Info
What computer platform did you use? Mac PC

Did you play online or with a CD? Online CD

Did you play alone or with others? Alone with 1 other person in a large class group

About how many hours did you play the game? 1 2 3 4 more than 4

Did you have any purely technical problems playing the game? Yes No

If Yes, please describe them and if and how you fixed the problem.