**“A” Work**

**Writing a Proposal to Attend**

**Barnes and Nelson**

**Reduced Gravity Education Flight Program**

WELCOME!

Mrs. Barnes and Mrs. Nelson appreciate your interest in attending our 2014 Reduced Gravity Flight Program.

Listed below are the flight week dates for the upcoming year. These dates are subject to change. We have received funding for additional flight spots in our April 2014 campaign. We will select up to 10 students for this opportunity. Please be aware if applying to this flight week that the time frame is condensed when compared to a typical flight week.

Tentative Flight Week (subject to change)

**Flight Week 1 – April 4-April 12, 2014**

**Flight Week 2 – May 30 – June 7, 2014**

Our Reduced Gravity Education Flight Program is an experimental education program that is important to the future of NASA. The Program provides a unique academic experience for middle school students to successfully propose and evaluate a reduced gravity experiment of their choice.

You must submit a Letter of Proposal to Barnes and Nelson to be considered for our flight week. Here are some things to include in your Letter of Proposal.

* You are proposing an experiment that can be done on the micro-gravity aircraft. Emphasize science in the proposal - there should be some data that leads you to believe that the phenomena you are investigating will react differently in microgravity than in your home 1-G lab. Simply proposing to do something "to see what happens" will probably weaken your proposal's technical merit. A well-stated hypothesis with underlying rationale on why you believe something will happen will probably strengthen your proposal's technical value.

Generating an idea for a microgravity experiment is the first stage in competing for a program “slot.” The idea for a reduced gravity experiment is to be developed by you- the student.

In order to achieve the highest possible ranking, it is recommended that the student address the following in their written proposal.

* introduce an interesting and meaningful experiment
* clearly explain the experiment and why microgravity is needed
* state the hypothesis
* address safety concerns
* evaluate whether or not the experiment can be reasonably expected to produce meaningful results during a flight plan
* explain what data you will collect, and how it will answer the research question posed.