

FACULTY NOTES

The LTAs and Spinoffs are designed so that each professor can implement them in a way that is consistent with his/her teaching style and course objectives. This may range from using the materials as out-of-class projects with minimal in-class guidance to doing most of the work in class. The LTAs and Spinoffs are amenable to small group cooperative work and typically benefit from the use of some learning technology. Since the objective of the LTAs and Spinoffs is to support the specific academic goals you have set for your students, the Faculty Notes are not intended to be prescriptive. The purpose of the Faculty Notes is to provide information that assists you to take full advantage of the LTAs and Spinoffs. This includes suggestions for instruction as well as answers for the exercises.



FACULTY NOTES

SPINOFF 8A

Exploring Shuttle Preparations: Crawler and VAB

This Spinoff is an Internet assignment to find information on (1) the Vehicle Assembly Building, and (2) the crawler. Some of the information is fascinating, and the numbers are quite beyond the experience of any of our students! A good overview of the preparations for launch of the space shuttle at the Kennedy Space Center can be found at:

<http://quest.arc.nasa.gov/shuttle/background/prep.html>

From here there is a link to a Virtual Tour of the shuttle preparations:

<http://quest.arc.nasa.gov/shuttle/countdown/tour.html>

From here there is a link to the Vehicle Assembly Building (VAB):

<http://www.ksc.nasa.gov/facilities/vab.html>

and the Transporter/Crawler:

<http://www.ksc.nasa.gov/facilities/crawler.html>

You might have the students prepare a report and include a comparison of the size of the VAB to the size of their home and the size, speed, and mileage of the crawler to their car.