

Space Gastronomy Facts

Gastronomy In Space · Answer Key · 12 Questions

1. What is the primary reason salt and pepper are provided in liquid form to astronauts on the International Space Station?

- A) To save storage space
- B) To prevent particles from floating into equipment**
- C) To make it taste better
- D) To reduce the weight of the containers

2. What was the first solid food consumed by an American astronaut in space during the Mercury program?

- A) Applesauce**
- B) Beef jerky
- C) Chocolate bar
- D) Oatmeal

3. Why do astronauts often find that food tastes bland while living in space?

- A) The food is pre-cooked
- B) Fluid shifts cause congestion, affecting the sense of smell**
- C) Space radiation changes food chemistry
- D) They are not allowed to use spices

4. Which popular carbonated beverage was the first soft drink consumed in space in 1985?

- A) Pepsi
- B) Root Beer
- C) Coca-Cola**
- D) Sprite

5. How is most water provided to astronauts on the International Space Station?

- A) Brought in barrels
- B) Recycled from urine and sweat**
- C) Collected from space clouds
- D) Melted from ice asteroids

6. What is the term for food that has had the water removed to prevent spoilage and reduce weight for space missions?

- A) Dehydrated**
- B) Fermented
- C) Pickled
- D) Smoked

7. Which common kitchen item is prohibited on the International Space Station because it creates dangerous floating crumbs?

- A) Canned peaches
- B) Fresh bread**
- C) Plastic spoons
- D) Drinking pouches

8. In 1962, which astronaut was the first human to eat a meal while orbiting the Earth?

- A) Neil Armstrong
- B) John Glenn**
- C) Buzz Aldrin
- D) Yuri Gagarin

9. What do astronauts use to ensure their food stays on their trays while eating in microgravity?

- A) Superglue
- B) Magnets and Velcro**
- C) Heavy plates
- D) Rubber bands

10. What is the primary method used to heat food on the International Space Station?

- A) Microwave oven
- B) Convection heater**
- C) Open flame
- D) Induction cooktop

11. Which vegetable was the first to be grown and eaten by astronauts on the International Space Station in 2015?

- A) Red Romaine lettuce**
- B) Potatoes
- C) Carrots
- D) Broccoli

12. Space food packaging is designed to be easily disposed of by:

- A) Burning it for fuel
- B) Burying it on Mars
- C) Compressing it into waste containers**
- D) Launching it out of an airlock