

# ***Reach for the Stars Rocket Contest***

**Open to ages 10-Adult**

★ ***It' s as simple as 3...2...1...***

**3... Build Rockets.**

**2... Launch & Mark Landing Spot.**

*Three closest rockets to target launch again.*

**1... Closest average landing *WINS LOCAL EVENT!***

***Enter Local winner' s results into the national contest.***

★★ ***Closest of all entries submitted to Contest Headquarters by the deadline - WINS NATIONAL EVENT!!***

**National winners celebrate at the**

***October Sky Festival, Coalwood, West Virginia***

***(Entry Deadline Sept. 10)***

**Or**

***Astronaut Hall of Fame, Kennedy Space Center***

***(Entry Deadline Oct. 10)***

## **A. Purpose**

1. The purpose of this contest is to foster an interest in model rocketry and space science and to promote the ***Helping Kids Reach for the Stars*** program.
2. The goal of the program is to give kids the opportunity to build and launch a solid-fuel powered model rocket.

## **B. Eligibility**

1. Open to anyone residing in any of the United States except Rhode Island (due to state law).
2. Contestant must be at least ten years of age at time of launch.
3. Special conditions apply to Alaska and Hawaii.

## **C. Prizes**

1. One national winner at each level for each contest will be awarded the Grand Prize as outlined below.
2. Contest hosts are encouraged to award prizes at the local level.

## GRAND PRIZES - to be awarded to the National Winners.

### ***Reach for the Stars Rocket Contest / October Sky Festival Celebration***

Celebrate at the **October Sky Festival**, Coalwood, W. VA.

**October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

★★★ Launch your winning rocket from **Cape Coalwood** with the original **Rocket Boys**.

★★★Receive trophy from author **Homer Hickam** - **A Rocket Boys®** (made into the movie "**October Sky**") at the Coalwood clubhouse

★★★Includes one night hotel accommodations per winner

.....and more!

Weather permitting. In the event of cancellation due to circumstances beyond our control, certificates will be awarded at a location to be announced.

Travel expenses and applicable taxes not included.

### ***Reach for the Stars Rocket Contest-Astronaut Hall of Fame Celebration***

Celebrate at the **Space & Air Show**, Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex

**November 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

★★★Includes tickets to **KSC Visitor Complex** during the **Space & Air Show** for contest winners and 3 guests each

★★★**Launch** your winning rocket & receive your trophy at the **Astronaut Hall of Fame**

★★★Special tour of the **Astronaut Hall of Fame** for the Winners and their families

★★★See **Navy Blue Angels** perform

★★★Visit the **Rocket Garden & Astronaut Memorial**

★★★Ride the **Shuttle Launch Experience**

★★★View the **IMAX movie**

★ Includes two nights' accommodations at the **Country Inn & Suites** (Cocoa Beach) per winner

.....and more!

Weather permitting. In the event of cancellation due to circumstances beyond our control, certificates will be awarded at a location to be announced.

Travel expenses and applicable taxes not included.

## D. Important Dates

### **Reach for the Stars Rocket Contest / October Sky Celebration**

**Monday, November 5<sup>th</sup> 2007 -**

Sale of contest Kits and mailing of *National Entry Forms* and certificates begins

**Wednesday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008 - (note: date extended)**

National Entry Forms must be received at contest headquarters.

*Forms may be mailed or faxed to us at (206) 350-7880 (note: new fax number)*

**Friday, September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2008 -**

Winners notified and posted on our website

**Saturday, October 4<sup>th</sup> 2008 -**

***October Sky Festival Launch and Celebration***, Coalwood, West VA

### **Reach for the Stars Rocket Contest / Astronaut Hall of Fame Celebration**

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Winners notified and posted on our website

**Saturday & Sunday, November 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup>, 2008**

***Astronaut Hall of Fame Launch and Celebration*** at Kennedy Space Center  
Visitor Complex during ***Space & Air Show***.

E. Contest Registration B on-line at [SciConServices.com](http://SciConServices.com) or by mail.

Registration Package includes Achievement Certificates, Local Winner-s Certificate, National Contest Entry Form and Flight Log.

Contest Registration Fee = \$25.00 plus \$1.00 per contestant (to cover registration and cost of individual achievement certificate)

**★Note:** Included with registration is a **\$20.00 discount** from [TheRocketman.net](http://TheRocketman.net).

**To be used when ordering rockets and supplies** from [SciConServices.com](http://SciConServices.com).

Payment can be made:

- on our website via PayPal or Credit Card
- by fax with a Purchase Order
- by money order payable to **SciCon Services** mailed to:  
**Reach for the Stars Rocket Contest Headquarters**  
1683 Siesta Drive, Sarasota, Florida 34239

## National Entry Form

1. Must be signed by:
  - Winner (parent or guardian signature needed for minors)
  - Three rocket contest participants
  - Contest host or teacher or leader
  - Public official (i.e. school administrator, police officer, firefighter, politician)
2. Must be received at contest headquarters by **Contest Deadline** (See Section D).
3. We are not responsible for lost, stolen, misdirected or postage due entries.
4. Entries must be on original, numbered form. Submission by fax accepted.

***Important note:*** When rocket kits are purchased from sources other than ***TheRocketman*** or ***SciCon Services*** they must adhere to the specifications outlined in section G. Proof of this must be shown by inclusion of a copy of the purchase receipt showing *Estes* model names or numbers. If the rockets are not *Estes* then proof in the form of published specifications from the manufacturer included with copy of purchase receipt. If no such information is available measurements must be made and signed by the local contest judges. **Failure to submit this information with the National Contest Entry Form will void the entry.**

## Local Contests

1. A minimum of 12 participants is required for each local contest.
2. Events may be held simultaneously.
3. Participants must be registered for an event prior to launch.
4. One National Entry Form is supplied per contest.
5. Use of our *Pause-for-Sciences* Rocket Construction video disc is optional. It is provided as a construction aide only, to make rocket building easy for both the instructor and the participant.
6. Any model rocket building and launching should follow the rules and precautions set forth by the rocket manufacturer and the *National Association of Rocketry*.
7. All laws and regulations regarding model rocket flights for your location should be observed.
8. Contestants can enter only one contest.

## F. On-site Judges

1. Two adults including one public official (i.e. school admin, police officer, firefighter, govt. official, etc)

**Note:** Relatives of participating contestants should not be judges.

2. Judges will determine the landing spot of the rocket and oversee the measurement of the distance from a target placed 20 feet down range from the launch pad.
  - a. The target should be clearly marked and easily visible prior to the first contest launch.
3. In the event that the judges cannot agree on the touchdown spot - the touchdown will be determined as a point halfway between the two points in question.
4. Information and measurements may be recorded in the *Flight Log* provided for recording and averaging all entries.

5. Decisions of the judges are final.
6. *National Contest Entry Form* must be completed and signed the day of the local event.

**G. Three contest levels - Ages 10 to adult** (age at time of launch)  
**(Direct adult supervision recommended for those under 12)**

**Level 1     *Estes Firehawk* (#0804)**

Or model rocket with the same specifications

(11.2 inches tall, .736 inches diameter, .65 oz., 12 in. Plastic parachute, 3 plastic molded fins)

***Estes A3-4T Engine* (#1507)**

Or similar engine with propellant weight of 0.12 oz.

**Level 2     *Estes Alpha III* (#1256)**

Or model rocket with the same specifications

(12.3 in. tall, .98 in. diameter, 1.2 oz., 12 in. plastic parachute, 3 plastic fins)

***Estes A8-3 Engine* (#1598)**

Or similar engine with propellant weight of 0.11 oz.

**Level 3     *Estes Alpha* (#1225)**

Or model rocket with same specifications

(12.3 in. tall, .98 in. diameter, .8 oz., 12 in. plastic parachute, laser cut balsa fins)

***Estes A8-3 Engine* (#1598)**

Or similar engine with propellant weight of 0.11 oz.

**H. Contest Supplies**

***This is a national contest, supplies are limited - order early!***

**Note: *Launch Pad* and *Control* not included.**

**Check out the *Starter Sets & Launch Sets* at [www.SciConServices.com](http://www.SciConServices.com).**

**Contest 12 Pack contains:**

*Pause-for-Science*® *Rocket Construction video* (available free upon request)

12 rocket kits

24 engines, igniters & wadding

**Contest 3 Pack contains:**

3 rocket kits

6 engines, igniters (8 engines with Firehawk)

Recovery wadding

**For ordering additional supplies:**

Individual rocket kits can be ordered for each level (*Firehawk, Alpha III & Alpha*).

A3-4T engines (for Firehawk) come in 4 packs (4 engines & igniters)

A8-3 engines (for Alpha III & Alpha) come in 3 packs (3 engines & igniters)

Recovery Wadding must be ordered with engines B 75 sheets per package.

**Note: Prices vary.**

Available from [www.SciConServices.com](http://www.SciConServices.com). Allow 3 - 4 weeks for delivery.

**I. Equipment Needed** B not included in the *Contest Package*

1. Standard model rocket launch pad, launch rod (not to exceed 36 inches) and launch control are required - available separately. Go to [www.SciConServices.com](http://www.SciConServices.com) check out *Starter Sets* and *Launch Sets*.
2. Measuring tape B able to measure distances up to 50 feet and as small as 3 inch. A tape shorter than 50 feet may be used; however attention must be paid to accuracy.
3. Modeling supplies - glue, sandpaper, hobby knife, scissors & paint (optional).

**J. Flight Log** - Included in *Registration Package* or available via mail request.  
Provided for your convenience. May be used to record flight data.

**K. Procedures** B *Practice launches are encouraged however all practice launches must be completed before local competition launches begin*

1. Target (clearly marked & easily visible) should be placed 20 ft. downrange from launch- pad.
  - a. Target must be fixed to ground to prevent accidentally moving it.( Ex: a golf tee through a piece of paper or small flag on dowel).
2. In an order selected at random, each participant will launch their rocket and mark its landing spot.
3. Closest 3 landings to the target are measured and recorded. Those 3 contestants launch a 2<sup>nd</sup> time to determine winner of local competition.
4. Measurements of the winning entry must be taken in feet and inches (to the nearest 3 inch) and recorded.

*Note: Only the winning entry needs to be measured with accuracy. All others may be estimated.*

5. Closest average distance among top 3 competitors (measured from first touchdown spot on the ground to the target) wins. Distance of 1<sup>st</sup> landing plus distance of 2<sup>nd</sup> landing divided by 2
6. Touchdown spot should be immediately marked. (a golf tee or similar device makes a good marker)
7. Record as 50 feet any:
  - a. landing at a distance greater than 50 feet.
  - b. landing that does not reach the ground (landings in trees, ponds, etc.).
  - c. rocket unable to fly.
  - d. rocket that cannot be returned to the judges.
  - e. rocket that separates into two or more unattached pieces.
8. Model rockets must comply with all specifications in this section and the *NAR, Model Rocketry Safety Code*
9. During the contest, ignition of the engine constitutes a flight. If an engine fails to ignite, the engine, igniter or both may be replaced.
10. The rocket may not be remotely controlled or remotely guided.

11. No modifications can be made to the original rocket design except as specified in #13a below.

12. No weight may be added.

13. Parachute must be 12 inch plastic.

a. Parachute modification is limited to removal of all or part of the center circle/spill hole.

14. Practice flights are legal and encouraged. However, once the contest has started each flight counts.

15. Contestants must build their own rockets. Assistance in construction and launch is hands-off only. You can demonstrate (i.e. *Pause-for-Science* video) and verbally direct.

16. Certificates of Achievement should be awarded to all contestants who launch.

17. Local winners= entry form should be sent to **National Contest Headquarters.** (see section E)

## L. Additional Information

1. Check our website [www.TheRocketman.net](http://www.TheRocketman.net) for contest updates and further information.

2. Use of our *Pause-for-Science Rocket Construction* video disc is optional. It is provided as an aide to making rocket building easy for both the instructor and the participant.

3. In the event of a tie the winner will be chosen by the closest single landing among the tying entries. If a tie still exists **nationally**, the winner will be chosen by the earliest postmark or fax date.

4. For local contests no questions or protests will be considered later than 15 minutes after the winner is announced.

5. National contest questions and protests must reach contest headquarters 48 hours prior to contest deadline.

6. Decision of the judges, both local and national, shall be final.

## M. Contest Rules

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VOID WHERE PROHIBITED

Note: Delivery to Alaska and Hawaii will require additional postage. Rhode Island is excluded from contest due to state law.

1. Winners will be notified and posted on our website 72 hours after contest deadline.

2. Decisions of the judges are final. Not responsible for late, lost, stolen, mutilated, incomplete, illegible, misdirected, or postage due mail or fax.

3. Employees of *TheRocketman* / *SciCon Services* and their immediate families or members of the same household are not eligible.

4. Winner-s accommodations and travel (if provided) are for the *October Sky Festival* or *Astronaut Hall of Fame* awards ceremonies only. If winner cannot attend on the specified date, the prize may be forfeited and an alternate winner selected. Prize does not include taxes or any other expenses not specifically listed herein

5. All entries become the property of *TheRocketman / SciCon Services* and will not be acknowledged or returned. Winner and his/her parent or guardian are required to complete and sign an affidavit of eligibility and liability release within 7 days of receipt of prize notification. Noncompliance or return of prize notification as undeliverable will result in disqualification and selection of an alternate winner.
6. *TheRocketman / SciCon Services* and affiliates reserve the right to substitute prizes of equal or comparable value.
7. *TheRocketman / SciCon Services* and affiliates assume no responsibility for any losses, injuries, or damages resulting from participation in the contest.
8. All prizes and awards are guaranteed by the individual company involved, not by *TheRocketman* or *SciCon Services*.
9. *TheRocketman / SciCon Services* and affiliates may use each winner's name, photograph, likeness, and/or voice in any publicity or advertising relating to the contest or future promotions without compensation or approval (except where prohibited by law).
10. By participating, entrants agree to be bound by the official rules and the decisions of the judges.
11. All federal, state, and local taxes are the sole responsibility of the winners.
12. All other expenses associated with this trip are the responsibility of the winner to pay. The prize is subject to availability, advance reservations and other restrictions.
13. By entering the contest, contestants agree to release, discharge, indemnify and hold harmless the sponsor, distributor and affiliates from any and all liability, loss, damage or injuries to any person or property of any kind sustained in connection with their participation in the contest and/or use of any prize awarded hereunder.

## **N. Winners Announcement**

For names of winners (available 72 hours after Contest Deadline) check our website [www.TheRocketman.net](http://www.TheRocketman.net) or send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to:

***Reach for the Stars Rocket Contest - Winners***

1683 Siesta Dr.  
Sarasota, FL 34239

***This contest is void where prohibited and subject to federal, state, and local laws and regulations. Certain restrictions may apply.***

## **Reference:**

**National Association of Rocketry** B *Model Rocketry Safety Code, United States Model Rocketry Sporting Code - Spot Landing Competition*

**Estes** B *Model Rocket Contest Guide, Laws Pertaining to Rocketry, Rocketry 101, Model Rocketry Technical Manual*

82008

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