

# Space Products

A girl has trouble breathing. Doctors ask her to breathe into a machine. It measures the gases she exhales. Then they can help her breathe better. That machine is a



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product of NASA. Before people could go into space, NASA needed to measure how an **astronaut's** body used gases. In space, there is no air, so all the gases an astronaut needs to breathe must be provided. Now, the machine lets doctors help people breathe.

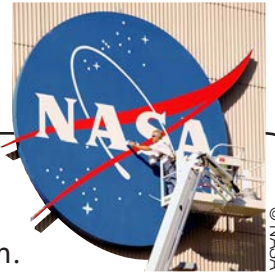
NASA needed comfortable, safe seats for their pilots. They developed temper foam. It shapes itself to the pilot's body. Its softness helps make airplanes safer. Now temper foam is used in many places. It's used in race-car and motorcycle seats. It cushions football helmets and athletic shoes. This space-age product is not just for pilots anymore.



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## Word Wise

NASA is an **acronym** for National Aeronautics and Space Administration. An acronym uses the first letter of each word to make a new word.



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The *Apollo* astronauts needed special tools for their trip to the Moon. They needed a drill that did not have to be plugged into a power source. NASA and a tool company developed a cordless drill with its own power supply.

These are three examples of the thousands of products that were created by space-age research and that help people every day.

## ✓ Brain Check

- Why would scientists need to measure the gases we breathe?
- List four products that contain temper foam.
- Why do you think astronauts need a cordless drill?