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Activities

Virtual Rocket

Name: _____ Date: _____

On March 6, 2009, a Delta II rocket blasted off from Cape Canaveral with its payload, the Kepler spacecraft. Kepler is off exploring the galaxy, hunting for habitable planets. In this Planet Diary activity, you'll build and launch a virtual Delta II.

Directions

- To build your rocket, go to NASA's Rocket Science 101. Click the red circle below "Have Fun" on the left. Select *Delta II* from menu along the bottom. Click the picture of the Delta II rocket.
- Follow the onscreen instructions to build your rocket. Then answer Workspace question 1 below.
- Read this Planet Diary report on the launch of the Kepler spacecraft onboard a Delta II rocket. Answer the last two questions.
- Try building another rocket. Return to Rocket Science 101 and select a different rocket from the menu. Have fun!

Workspace

1. Arrange these steps of the flight profile in the correct order by numbering them 1 (first event) through 5 (last event):
   ____ Fairing jettison
   ____ Second stage engine cutoff
   ____ Solid rocket motor jettison
   ____ Spacecraft separation
   ____ Main engine cutoff/second stage ignition

2. Summarize Kepler's mission.

3. What's a habitable zone?

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