

Meet Ellen Ochoa

Science

Genre

In an **Interview**, one person asks questions and another person answers them.



Text Feature

The **Question/Answer Format** uses the words *question* and *answer* to show who is speaking.

Content Words

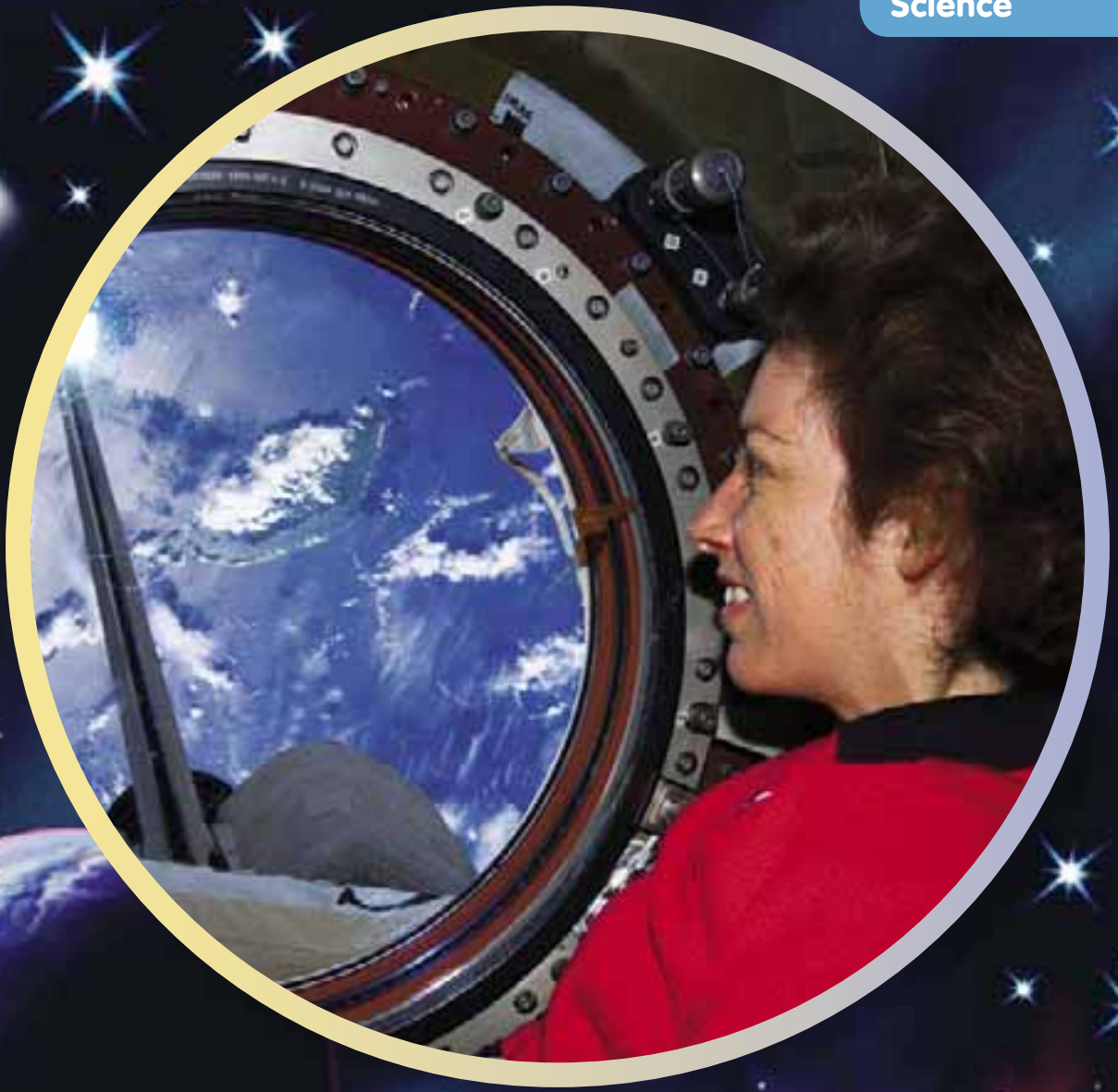
astronaut
weightless
planet



Find out more about exploring space at www.macmillanmh.com

Ellen Ochoa was the first Hispanic woman **astronaut**. She has made many trips into space. Ellen lives in Houston, Texas.





Ellen Ochoa looks out into space.

Question: Why did you want to be an astronaut?

Answer: It sounded exciting to be **weightless**! I wanted to look at our **planet** Earth from space.

Question: What should kids who want to be astronauts do?

Answer: They should study math and science and go to college. They should like learning new things and working in a team.

Ellen Ochoa with her team before going into space





Ellen Ochoa inside a space module

Question: What's it like to be in space?

Answer: It's a lot of fun! You're floating and so is everything else! It's easy to move heavy things. It's easy to reach things, too.

Lunch in Space

- Peanut butter or chicken salad in a tortilla
- Space s'mores (marshmallows and chocolate bar in a tortilla)
- Water or apple juice



Question: How was the food in space?

Answer: The food was very good. We took freeze-dried food and powdered drinks with us. We added hot or cold water. We ate a lot of tortillas. It's easy to put stuff in them.



Question: What's the hardest thing about your job?

Answer: You have to learn a lot. And make sure you learn it before you leave Earth!



Ellen Ochoa works at the space station.

Connect and Compare

What might Blue Jay ask Ellen Ochoa?



Writing

Predicates

The **predicate** of a sentence tells what the subject does or is.

Write About Pretending

Anna wrote about pretending to be an astronaut.



I like to pretend I'm an astronaut. I blast off. I peek outside. The sky looks like fireworks on the Fourth of July! My rocket zooms to the moon.

Your Turn

Think about something you like to pretend to be.

Write about it.

Tell what you do and imagine.



Writer's Checklist

- Will readers understand my story?
- Does each sentence have a **predicate**?
- Do special names like holidays begin with a capital letter?