

SPACE NEEDLE FACTS

About the Space Needle

- The Space Needle was built for the World's Fair, a celebration where people from all over the world came to Seattle.
- The Space Needle took 400 days to build. It was finished in 1962. Because it was built so fast it was called "The 400 Day Wonder"!
- The Space Needle was built to look like it was from the future. The original nickname of the Space Needle was "The Space Cage."
- The Space Needle is 605 feet tall – as tall as 1,320 Milky Way candy bars.
- There are 848 steps from the bottom of the basement to the top of the Observation Deck.
- The Space Needle moves back and forth 1 inch for every 10 miles per hour that the wind blows. It is safe in winds up to 200 miles per hour.
- The elevators in the Space Needle travel at 10 miles per hour up to the top.

About the Renovation

- When the work is finished, all of the walls around the Observation Deck will be made of glass.
- There will be more than 100 workers at the Space Needle working on the project. Workers will be there 24 hours a day.
- A special platform will be built for the workers, 500 feet above the ground.
- Thousands of pounds of glass and other materials will be moved from the ground to the platform.
- Imagine the top of the Space Needle as a pie cut into 6 pieces. The workers will work on one piece of the pie at a time.
- Visitors to the Space Needle (like you!) will be able to see the construction while it is happening.



Profile of Ann Lin, Architect

Ann Lin is an architect who is working on the Space Needle renovation. The job of architects is to plan and design buildings and structures, like your school or the Space Needle.

- Ann used her imagination a lot as a kid. "My biggest interest was in drawing and art. I loved to draw and imagine fantasy situations."
- Ann learned about what architects do in high school when she took an art history class.
- Ann has designed colleges, libraries, banks and airports. She is very excited about working on the Space Needle. "The Space Needle is an historic landmark (an important building) in the middle of Seattle. It is on billboards, weather reports, advertisements...it's everywhere! It is also a complicated project because it is a historic building and it is very small."
- Ann's job is to organize the project and make sure the right people are working on the right things. She does a lot of problem solving!
- It wasn't easy for Ann to become an architect, but she never gave up. She has this advice for young people like you: "You can do anything! When I started out I thought, 'Wouldn't it be cool if I were an architect?' and I thought, 'Why not?' Don't be afraid if people tell you it's too hard or you can't do it. It is about breaking your dream down into goals, taking small steps, and getting people who support and understand you."