

THE OAK RIDGER

Y-12, ORNL and UT to host free Materials Camp Campers to examine debris from space shuttle Columbia

Oak Ridger Staff

Story last updated at 12:09 am on 5/21/2007

Area high school students will get a chance to experience real world science applications during the 2007 Materials Camp in Oak Ridge. The week-long academic day camp, held June 4 to 8, is absolutely free and features highly interactive, lab-based activities designed to get students excited about materials science.

“The goal of Materials Camp is to introduce the students to materials science by using hands-on, real-life applications. Students will have a chance to use state-of-the-art equipment, including Y-12’s large-chamber scanning electron microscope, to solve a real-life failure analysis,” said Jaret Frafjord, a metallurgical engineer at Y-12.

During camp, students will examine debris from the space shuttle Columbia, which disintegrated during re-entry to the Earth’s atmosphere Feb. 1, 2003. These pieces, provided to the camp by NASA, have never been studied before.

During the week, students will spend time at Y-12’s large chamber scanning electron microscope lab, Oak Ridge National Laboratory, Tech 2020 and on the University of Tennessee Knoxville campus.

Materials Camp is free to high school students who excel in the areas of science and math. Students must apply for the camp and are selected based on a variety of factors including academic performance and enthusiasm for learning.

Materials Camp is presented by Y-12, the Oak Ridge Chapter of ASM International, UT Department of Materials Science and Technology, ORNL and UT Materials Student Advantage Chapter.

For more information, please contact Claudia Rawn at (865) 574-3184 or rawncj@ornl.gov, or contact Steve Dekanich at (865) 574-8621 or dekanichsj@12.doe.gov. Applications must be returned on or before May 10.