

Name _____

Course/Section _____

Date _____

Professor/TA _____



Activity 37.1 What do you need to consider in order to grow plants in space (or anywhere else for that matter)?

Long-range, manned space travel and manned space stations may someday become a reality. Before this can occur, however, we will have to develop sustainable methods of agriculture suitable for use in space. One of the key methods being investigated is hydroponics, growing plants in water supplemented with nutrients.

You are assigned to a team working on the design of plant growth systems for use in a space station.

1. What types of plants would you choose to grow? Explain the reasoning behind your choices.

2. When you set up the growth system:

a. What nutrients would you need to add to the water? List what you would need, and why each would be necessary.	b. What atmosphere would you need to maintain? List what components you would need to maintain in the atmosphere and why each would be necessary.	c. Which of the requirements in parts a and b could be recycled? What could not be recycled? Explain.