

HOW & WHY

Q Where can a teen-ager learn more about astronomy in a summer camp experience? Do observatories run programs like the Space Camp?

M.E.,

Brookline

A There is one such camp, run by the University of Arizona.

Based in Tucson, the camp will include a tour of the famous Kitt Peak National Observatory and make use of a planetarium and observatory in Tucson during the first three days. The final four days will be spent at the university's Steward Observatory, atop Mt. Lemmon just outside Tucson.

The campers, aged 13 to 16, will live in the astronomers' dormitories and use a variety of telescopes, including one with a 61-inch-diameter mirror. During the day, they will also go on hikes to study the geology of the area, desert plant and animal life.

There will be two one-week sessions, beginning June 2 and June 9. The university will also hold an astronomy camp for adults on the weekend of April 6-8. Information can be obtained by calling Joan Morrill at 1-800-232-8278.

► *Readers are invited to send science questions to How and Why. Call 929-2050 or write: How and Why, Health & Science, The Boston Globe, Boston, MA 02107*