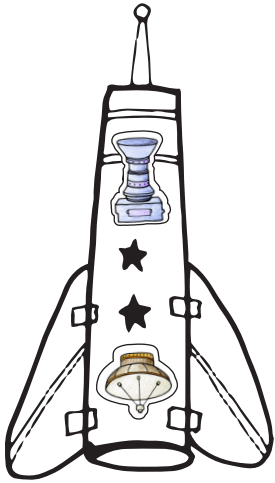


Science Payload

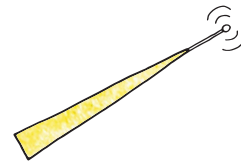


Sounding rockets, like other spacecraft, are equipped with special tools to collect scientific data and help researchers answer questions about the universe. This part of the rocket is often called the *science payload*.

Choose at least one communication tool and one data collection tool for your rocket's mission. **What research questions do you have? Why did you choose those tools?**

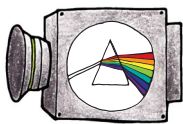
Communication

Some tools, like a **satellite dish** or an **antenna**, are used to communicate back to Earth.



Data Collection

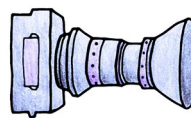
Some tools help scientists make observations, take measurements, or collect samples.



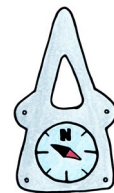
A **spectrograph** can separate wavelengths of light and record the data.



A **particle collector** can take samples of tiny bits of material found in the path of the rocket.



A **camera** uses light to collect images of objects.



A **compass** can detect invisible magnetic fields.