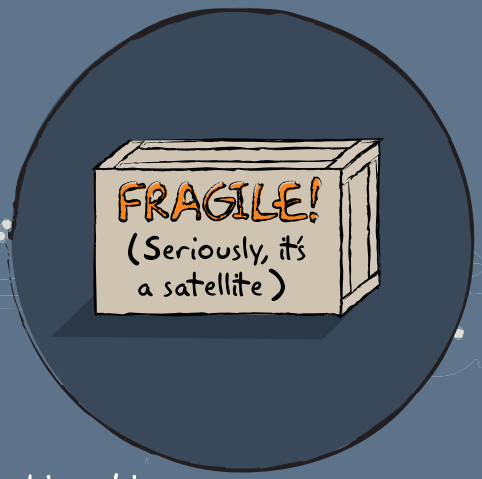
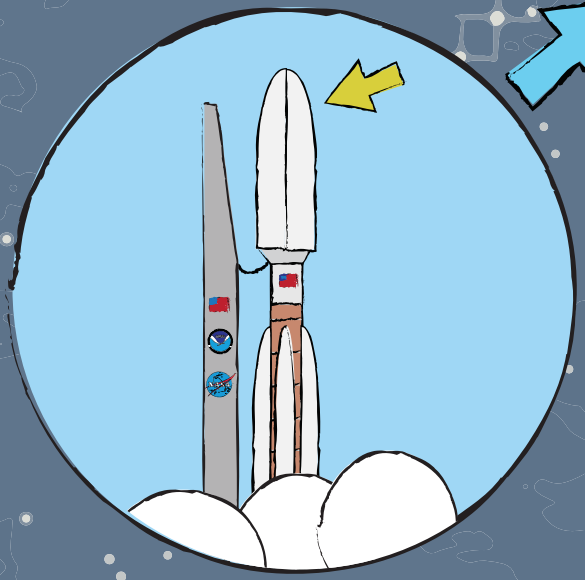
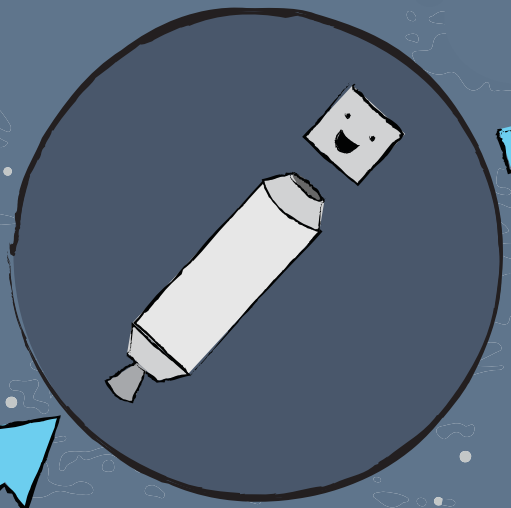
Getting GOES-R to Orbit



I'll be shipped in a very special satellite container from Colorado to Kennedy Space Center in Florida.

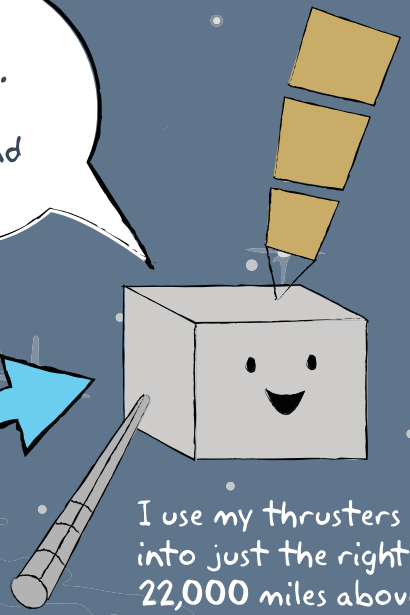


I get loaded onto an Atlas V 541 launch vehicle and we blast off into space.



My compartment separates from the launch vehicle and I continue to climb higher and higher.

I'm the GOES-R satellite. That stands for geostationary operational environmental satellite. I take advanced pictures for more accurate weather forecasts, map lightning in real time, and improve the monitoring of the sun's activity.



I use my thrusters to get into just the right position 22,000 miles above the ground and traveling 1.9 miles per second to keep up with Earth's rotation.