

## Tara Ruttley- BIO

Dr. Tara Ruttley has spent her career in human exploration activities. She's currently NASA's Associate Chief Scientist for Gravitational Research where she develops and supports research recommendations for human exploration of space. Tara holds a BS degree in Biology and a MS degree in Mechanical Engineering from Colorado State University and a PhD in Neuroscience from the University of Texas Medical Branch. Because of her desire to explore, Tara has also recently completed a MA degree in Anthropology-Archaeology from the University of Houston. She spent her NASA career at the Johnson Space Center as both a scientist and an engineer, before moving to NASA Headquarters in Washington, DC in 2018. She's authored numerous publications ranging from hardware design to neurological science and she also holds a U.S. utility patent. She's been an astronaut selection finalist, and because she loves new challenges, she's a frequent speaker for a wide range of exciting scientific topics that are relevant to current events and societal challenges in a way that's engaging and fun for a variety of audiences.

