

A Giant Leap for Mankind

Learning objective: To understand the significance of the first moon landing and the role of Neil Armstrong.

Read the story about Neil Armstrong. Use the word bank to help you. Fill in the boxes with your answers. You can use the sentence starters provided.

In 1969, the world watched a very special event. A man named Neil Armstrong became the first person to walk on the moon. Neil was a pilot and an astronaut. He travelled to space in a spacecraft called Apollo 11. He was joined by his team, Buzz Aldrin and Michael Collins. It took four days to fly from Earth to the moon. When the spacecraft landed, millions of people watched on their televisions at home. Neil Armstrong carefully climbed down the ladder. When he stepped onto the dusty surface, he said, 'That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind.' This moment made history. The astronauts collected rocks and took photographs to show people on Earth what the moon looked like. They returned safely to Earth a few days later. Everyone was very proud of their brave journey. Today, we still remember this trip as a huge achievement for science and for people all over the world.

Word bank: astronaut · spacecraft · moon · landing · Apollo · brave · history

1. What was the name of the spacecraft that Neil Armstrong travelled in? (Sentence starter: The name of the spacecraft was...) (2 marks)

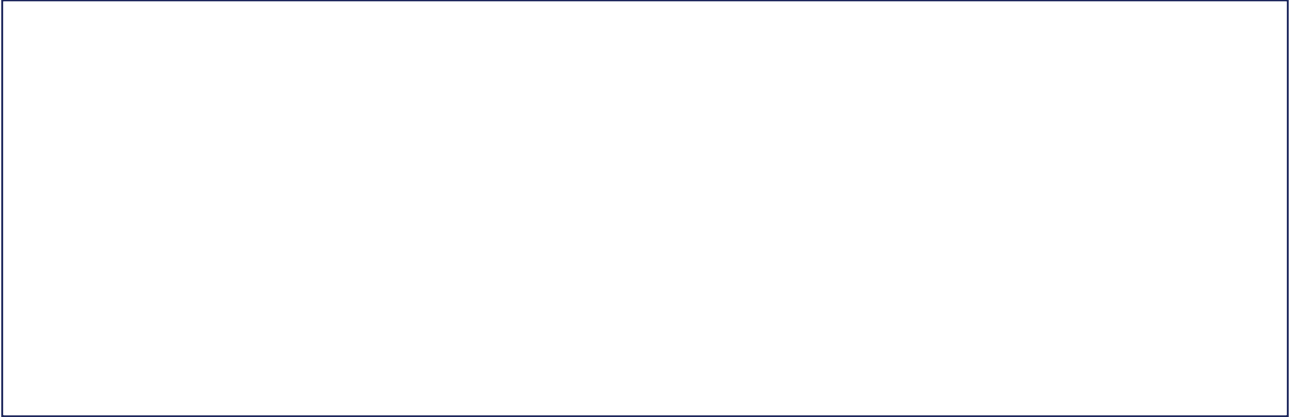
2. How many days did it take to travel from Earth to the moon? (Sentence starter: It took ... days to travel to the moon.) (2 marks)

3. Why do you think the astronauts took photographs of the moon? (Sentence starter: I think they took photos because...) (2 marks)

4. How might the people watching on television have felt when they saw the landing? (Sentence starter: The people probably felt ... because...) (2 marks)

5. Do you think Neil Armstrong was brave? Give one reason for your answer. (Sentence starter: I think Neil Armstrong was brave because...) (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Neil Armstrong standing on the moon next to a flag.



Extension challenge: Imagine you are an astronaut. Write two things you would pack in your suitcase to take to the moon.