Moon Mission: The Journey of Neil Armstrong

Learning objective: To understand the significance of the 1969 Apollo 11 mission and the historical impact of the first human moon landing.

Nova the barn owl has been stargazing and needs help organising the timeline of the Apollo 11 mission. Read the historical events below and place them in the correct chronological order (1-6). Then, complete the reflection task to show your understanding of this historic achievement.

Word bank: Apollo 11 · Eagle · Neil Armstrong · Lunar Module · Sea of Tranquillity · The Moon

1. Number these events from 1 to 6 to show the correct order of the mission:
[ ] Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin walk on the moon.
[ ] The Apollo 11 rocket launches from Florida.
[ ] The spacecraft enters orbit around the moon.
[ ] The Eagle lunar module lands on the surface.
[ ] The astronauts return safely to Earth.
[ ] The lunar module separates from the command module. (6 marks)

2. Why was the landing in the 'Sea of Tranquillity' considered a significant moment in human history? Explain your answer. (2 marks)

3. If you were planning a trip to the moon today, what is one piece of equipment you would take to help you study the lunar surface, and why? (2 marks)

4. The mission cost approximately £190 billion in today's money. If you were a scientist, how would you justify spending this amount on space exploration to the public? (2 marks)

5. Neil Armstrong described the first step as a 'giant leap for mankind'. What did he mean by this phrase? (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a sketch of the Lunar Module 'Eagle' sitting on the dusty surface of the moon with the Earth visible as a blue marble in the dark space above.

Extension challenge: Imagine you are a journalist in 1969. Write a short, exciting newspaper headline and the first paragraph of a report announcing the successful moon landing to the world.