Moon Mission: The Journey of Neil Armstrong

Learning objective: To understand the significance of the 1969 Moon landing and the role of Neil Armstrong in space exploration history.

Read each question carefully and use your historical knowledge to answer in full sentences. Ellie the Elephant has provided a word bank to help you with your writing.

Neil Armstrong was an American pilot and astronaut who became a global historical figure. In July 1969, he commanded the Apollo 11 mission. After travelling through space, he landed the lunar module, nicknamed 'Eagle', on the surface of the Moon. He was the first human to step onto the lunar surface, followed shortly by Buzz Aldrin. Their mission changed the way we understand our solar system and remains one of the most famous events of the 20th century.

Word bank: Apollo 11 · Astronaut · Moon landing · 1969 · Spacecraft · Eagle · Buzz Aldrin · Surface

1. In what year did the Apollo 11 mission land on the Moon? (1 mark)

2. Why is Neil Armstrong considered a significant person in the history of space exploration? (2 marks)

3. What was the name of the lunar module that Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin used to reach the Moon? (1 mark)

4. If you were an astronaut on the Apollo 11 mission, what is one item you would have packed to take with you to the Moon and why? (2 marks)

5. Explain why the Moon landing is an important event for historians to study. (2 marks)

Draw: Draw a picture of Neil Armstrong standing on the surface of the Moon. Make sure to include the lunar module and the Earth visible in the dark sky above him.

Extension challenge: Imagine you are a reporter in 1969. Write a short headline and one sentence for a newspaper front page announcing that the first humans have landed on the Moon.