

# First Man on the Moon

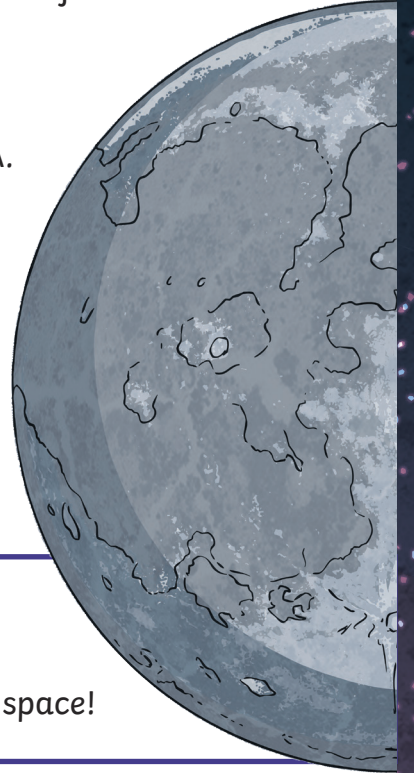
Neil Armstrong was an American astronaut who was famous for being the first person to walk on the Moon.

## His Early Life

Neil Armstrong was born on 5<sup>th</sup> August 1930, in the USA. His passion for flying began at a young age. When he was two years old, his parents took him to Cleveland Air Race which was where he saw his first ever aircraft. At the age of six, Neil was taken by his dad for a ride in an aeroplane. He worked hard to achieve his dream of being a pilot: Armstrong was only 16 years old when he received his first pilot's licence, before he could even drive a car!

## Fun Facts

- He was a keen Boy Scout.
- He suffered from travel sickness as a child, but was fine in space!

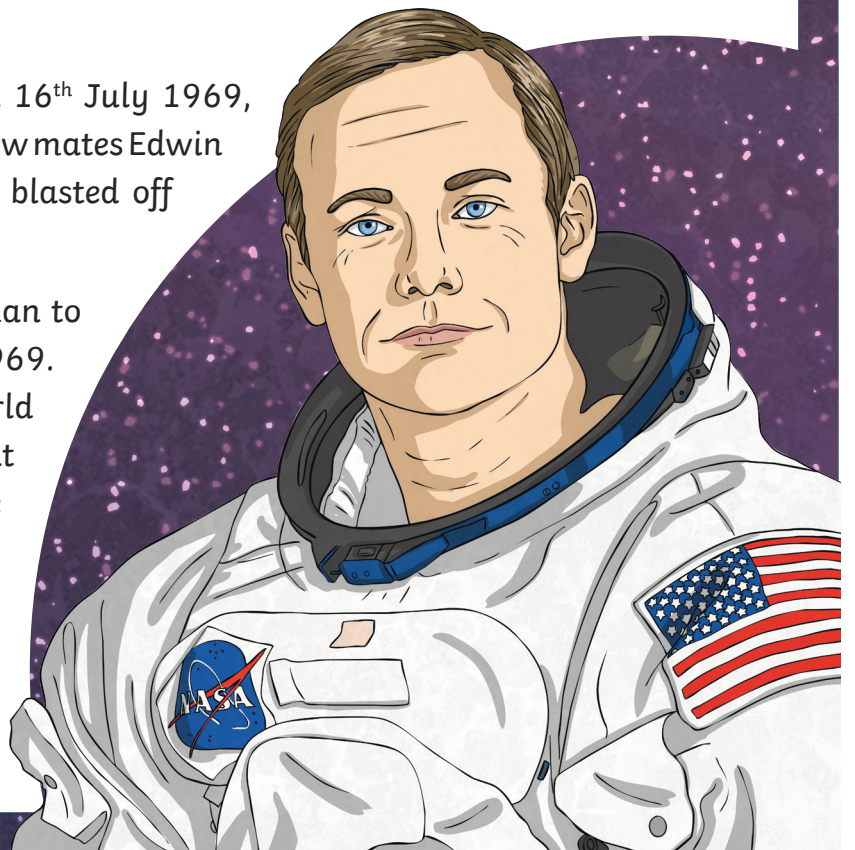


In September 1962, Neil Armstrong was accepted to the NASA astronaut corps, where he knew he might one day go in to space. Amazingly, during his career he flew over two hundred different aircraft!

## The Moon Landing

Finally, everything was ready! On 16<sup>th</sup> July 1969, at 13:32, Neil Armstrong and his crew mates Edwin (Buzz) Aldrin and Michael Collins blasted off into space.

Neil Armstrong became the first man to walk on the Moon on 20<sup>th</sup> July 1969. It was shown all across the world on television. It is estimated that 600 million people watched the astronauts make history.





## First Man on the Moon

During their moonwalk, Armstrong and Aldrin planted the flag of the United States of America. They also spent time collecting moon rocks from the surface. The astronauts returned home to Earth on 24<sup>th</sup> July 1969.

### Later Life

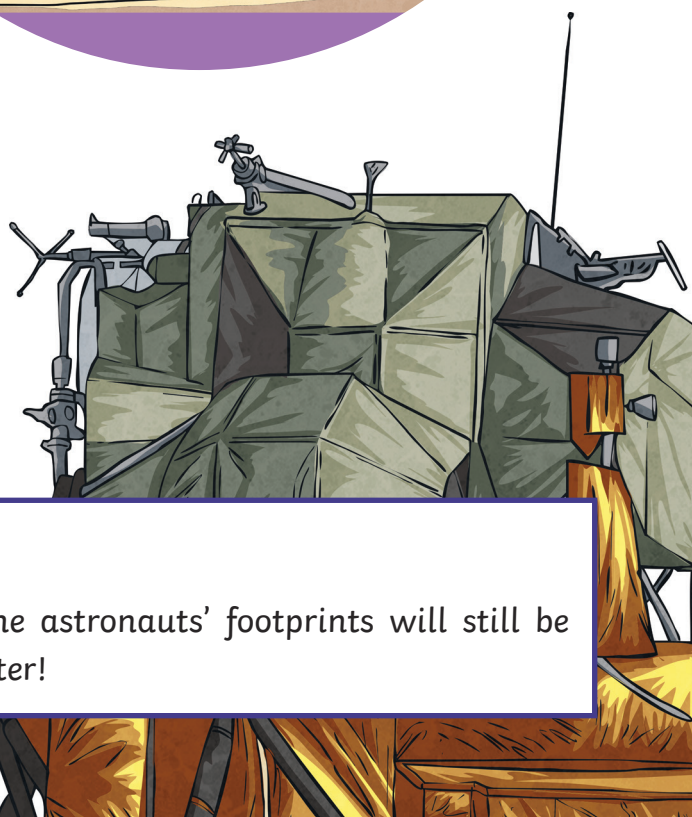
After he had returned home, Armstrong retired from being an astronaut. However, his enthusiasm for space and aircraft continued and he became a professor in order to share his passion.

### Famous Words

Neil Armstrong died on 25<sup>th</sup> August 2012 at the age of 82. He will always be remembered for his famous words: "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind."

### Did You Know...?

There is no wind on the Moon so the astronauts' footprints will still be there right now, nearly fifty years later!



# Questions

1. Who was Neil Armstrong? Tick one.

- ☐ An American scientist
- ☐ A British pilot
- ☐ The first person to drive a car
- ☐ The first person to walk on the Moon

2. Where was he born? Tick one.

- ☐ In the UK
- ☐ In Cleveland
- ☐ In France
- ☐ In the USA

3. Number the events below from 1 to 4 to show the order in which they happened.

- ☐ He went to Cleveland Air Race.
- ☐ He was born on 5<sup>th</sup> August 1930.
- ☐ He blasted off into space.
- ☐ He was accepted to the NASA astronaut corps.

4. Why did the space mission Apollo 11 take months of practice and preparation? Tick one.

- ☐ NASA had to check that everything was safe.
- ☐ Armstrong was suffering from travel sickness.
- ☐ 600 million people watched.
- ☐ He received his first pilot's licence.

5. Which two activities did Armstrong and Aldrin do during their moonwalk?

- 1. \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. \_\_\_\_\_

6. **Find** and **copy** a word which shows that Neil Armstrong was no longer an astronaut after returning home.

\_\_\_\_\_

7. How is it possible Neil Armstrong's footprints are still there on the Moon even now?  
Explain your answer.

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# Answers

1. Who was Neil Armstrong? Tick one.

- ☐ An American scientist
- ☐ A British pilot
- ☐ The first person to drive a car
- ☒ **The first person to walk on the Moon**

2. Where was he born? Tick one.

- ☐ In the UK
- ☐ In Cleveland
- ☐ In France
- ☒ **In the USA**

3. Number the events below from 1 to 4 to show the order in which they happened.

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- He was accepted to the NASA astronaut corps.

4. Why did the space mission Apollo 11 take months of practice and preparation? Tick one.

- ☒ **NASA had to check that everything was safe.**
- ☐ Armstrong was suffering from travel sickness.
- ☐ 600 million people watched.
- ☐ He received his first pilot's licence.

5. Which two activities did Armstrong and Aldrin do during their moonwalk?

- 1. They planted a flag of the United States.**
- 2. They spent time collecting moon rocks from the surface.**

6. **Find** and **copy** a word which shows that Neil Armstrong was no longer an astronaut after returning home.  
**retired**

7. How is it possible Neil Armstrong's footprints are still there on the Moon even now?  
Explain your answer.

**Pupils' own responses, such as 'His footprints are still there as there is no wind on the Moon to blow away the footprints in the dust of the Moon's surface.'**

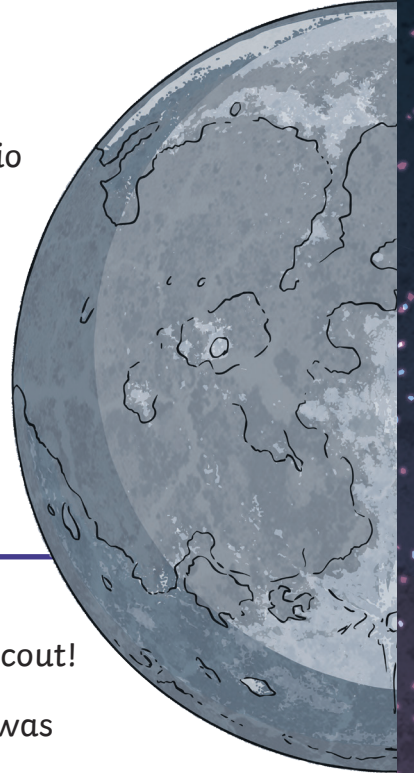


# First Man on the Moon

In 1969, Neil Armstrong became a worldwide name and a hero. He was the first person to walk on the Moon.

## His Early Life

Neil Armstrong was born on 5<sup>th</sup> August 1930, in the state of Ohio in the USA. His passion for flying blossomed at a young age. When he was two years old, his parents took him to Cleveland Air Race which was where he saw his first ever aircraft up close. At the age of six, Neil was taken by his dad for a ride in an aeroplane. He worked hard to achieve his dream of being a pilot: Armstrong was only 16 years old when he received his first pilot's licence, before he could even drive a car!



## Fun Facts

- He was an eager Boy Scout and earned the rank of Eagle Scout!
- As a child, he suffered from travel sickness, but luckily he was absolutely fine on the journey to the Moon!
- He loved making model aircraft in his spare time.

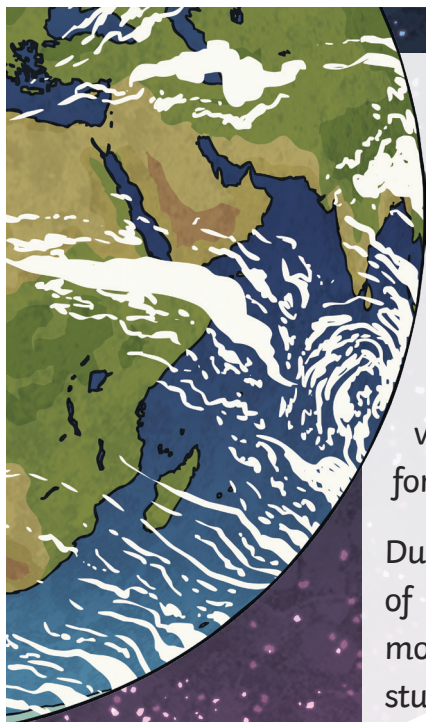
During his long career, Neil Armstrong flew more than two hundred different aircraft. His strengths were being resilient and calm under pressure so he was excellent at flying in very dangerous situations. As a result, in September 1962, he was accepted to the NASA astronaut corps.

## The Moon Landing

Finally, everything was ready! On 16<sup>th</sup> July 1969, at 13:32, the powerful Saturn V rocket blasted Neil Armstrong and his crew mates Edwin (Buzz) Aldrin and Michael Collins into space. It was a long journey to the Moon that took over three days!



## First Man on the Moon



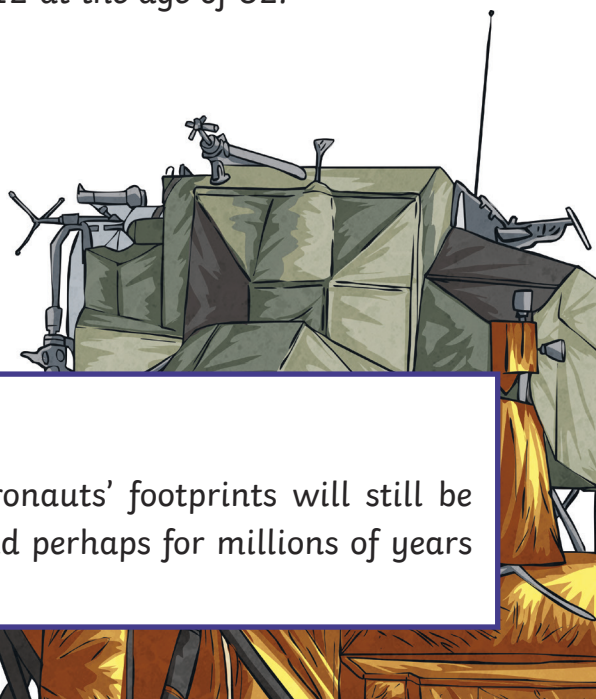
Four days later, Armstrong and Aldrin landed on the Moon. They landed in the lunar module, called 'the Eagle'. Collins stayed in orbit, doing experiments and taking photographs. Finally, following checks and preparation, on 20<sup>th</sup> July 1969, they opened the hatch of the Eagle. The Moon landing was shown all across the world on television. It is estimated that 600 million people watched. As he stepped off the ladder, he was heard to say, "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind."

During their moonwalk, Armstrong and Aldrin planted the flag of the United States of America. They also spent time collecting moon rocks from the surface and brought them back to Earth to be studied. The astronauts arrived home on Earth on 24<sup>th</sup> July 1969.



### Later Life

After he had returned home, Armstrong retired from being an astronaut. However, his enthusiasm for space and aircraft continued and he became a professor in order to share his passion. Neil Armstrong died on 25<sup>th</sup> August 2012 at the age of 82.



### Did You Know...?

There is no wind on the Moon so the astronauts' footprints will still be there right now, nearly fifty years later, and perhaps for millions of years to come!



# Questions

1. In 1969, what did Neil Armstrong become? Tick two.

- ☐ A pilot
- ☐ An eager Boy Scout
- ☐ A worldwide name
- ☐ A hero

2. Number the events below from 1 to 4 to show the order in which they happened.

- ☐ His parents took him to Cleveland Air Race.
- ☐ He was accepted to the NASA astronaut corps.
- ☐ He received his first pilot's licence.
- ☐ His dad took him for a ride in an aeroplane.

3. What happened to Neil Armstrong on 16<sup>th</sup> July 1969? Tick one.

- ☐ He suffered from travel sickness.
- ☐ He opened the hatch.
- ☐ He was offered the chance to command the space mission Apollo 11.
- ☐ The Saturn V rocket blasted Neil Armstrong and his crew mates into space.

4. Match each statement to the correct subtitle.

Preparation

The Moon Landing

Neil Armstrong was offered the chance to command Apollo 11.

It took months of practice.

It was shown all across the world on television.

They collected moon rocks.



5. Fill in the missing words.

He suffered from \_\_\_\_\_ sickness as a child, but was fine in \_\_\_\_\_.

6. Find and copy one word which shows how keen he was as a Boy Scout.

\_\_\_\_\_

7. Why do you think 600 million people watched the Moon landing on television?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

8. Why do you think he became a professor?

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

# Answers

1. In 1969, what did Neil Armstrong become? Tick two.

- ☐ A pilot
- ☐ An eager Boy Scout
- ☒ **A worldwide name**
- ☒ **A hero**

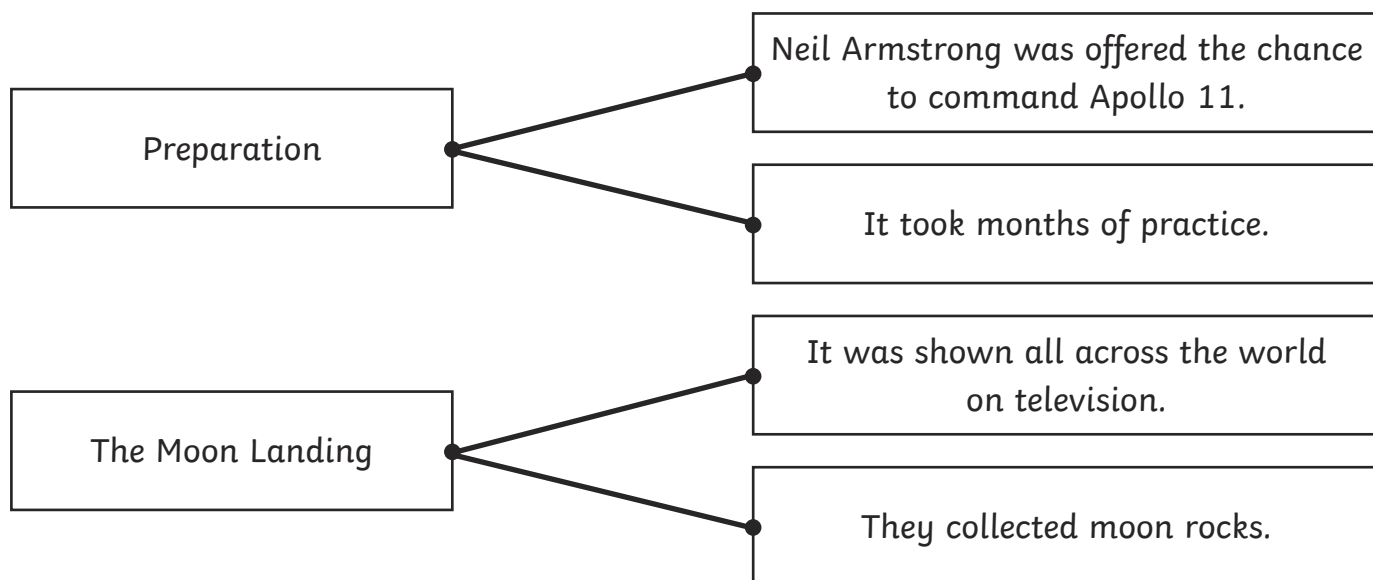
2. Number the events below from 1 to 4 to show the order in which they happened.

- His parents took him to Cleveland Air Race.
- He was accepted to the NASA astronaut corps.
- He received his first pilot's licence.
- His dad took him for a ride in an aeroplane.

3. What happened to Neil Armstrong on 16<sup>th</sup> July 1969? Tick one.

- ☐ He suffered from travel sickness.
- ☐ Neil and Buzz opened the hatch.
- ☐ He was offered the chance to command the space mission Apollo 11.
- ☒ **The Saturn V rocket blasted Neil Armstrong and his crew mates into space.**

4. Match each statement to the correct subtitle.



5. Fill in the missing words.

He suffered from **travel** sickness as a child, but was fine in **space**.

6. Find and copy one word which shows how keen he was as a Boy Scout.

**eager**

7. Why do you think 600 million people watched the Moon landing on television?

**Pupils' own responses showing an understanding of how the astronauts were making history and were the first people to land on the Moon.**

8. Why do you think he became a professor?

**Pupils' own responses explaining how even though he retired from being an astronaut, his enthusiasm for space continued and he wanted to share his passion.**



# First Man on the Moon

In July 1969, Neil Armstrong became a hero, a national treasure and worldwide name. He was the American astronaut who was the first person to ever set foot on the surface of the Moon.

## His Early Life

Neil Armstrong was born on 5th August 1930, in the state of Ohio in the USA, the eldest of three children. He developed a passion for aviation from a young age. His first experience of aircraft was when his parents took him to Cleveland Air Race as a toddler. At the age of six, he flew for the first time with his father. As a teenager, he took flying lessons which he paid for himself by working at a local chemist. He practised and persevered. Consequently, by 16 years old he had achieved his first pilot's licence, before he could even drive a car!

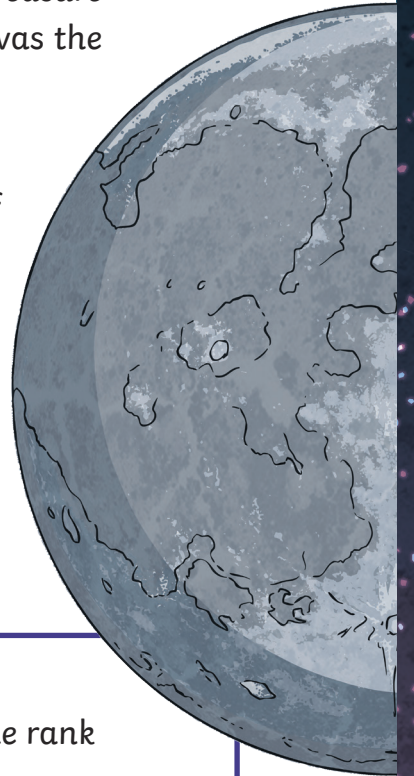
## Fun Facts

- Neil Armstrong was a committed Boy Scout and earned the rank of Eagle Scout!
- He loved making model aircraft in his spare time.
- As a child, he suffered from travel sickness, but fortunately he did not experience space sickness.

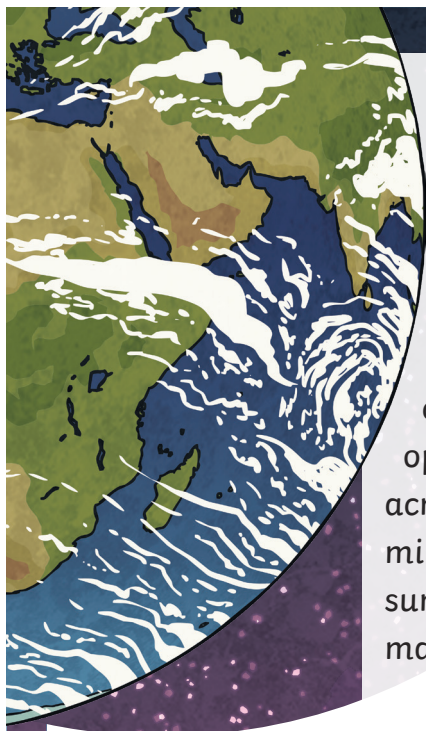
During his career in aviation, Neil Armstrong flew more than two hundred different aircraft! He was renowned for being resilient and calm under pressure, strengths which helped him to fly in very dangerous situations. It was in September 1962 that he was accepted to the NASA astronaut corps, which would eventually lead to the very difficult job of landing on the Moon!

## The Moon Landing

Finally, everything was ready! On 16<sup>th</sup> July 1969, at 13:32, the powerful Saturn V rocket blasted Neil Armstrong and his crew



## First Man on the Moon



mates Edwin (Buzz) Aldrin and Michael Collins into space. It was a long journey to the Moon which lasted over three days.

Once they arrived, the crew split up. Armstrong and Aldrin climbed into the lunar module, called 'the Eagle', to begin the descent to the Moon's surface. Collins stayed in orbit, doing experiments and taking photographs. Finally, following checks and preparation, on 20<sup>th</sup> July 1969, Neil and Buzz opened the Eagle's hatch. The Moon landing was shown all across the world on television to an estimated audience of 600 million people. As he stepped off the ladder, on to the Moon's surface, Armstrong was heard to say, "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind."

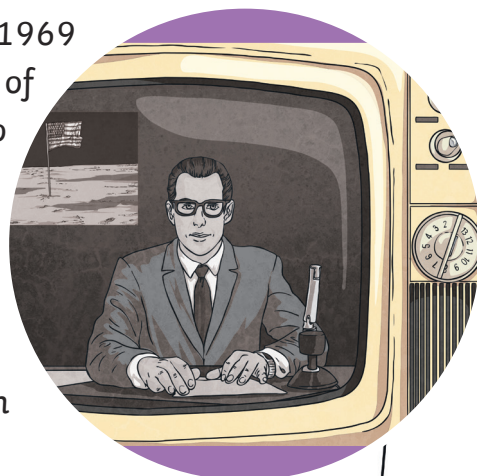
After landing, Armstrong and Aldrin had a moonwalk around the landing site where they planted the flag of the United States of America. They also spent time collecting moon rocks from the surface so they could be studied back on Earth.

The astronauts arrived home on Earth on 24<sup>th</sup> July 1969 where they were quarantined (put in isolation) in case of infectious diseases or illnesses before being released to tour the country.

### Later Life

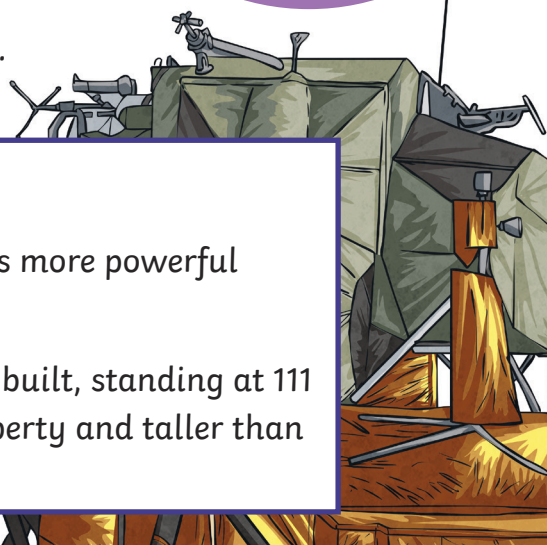
After he had returned home, Armstrong retired from being an astronaut. However, his enthusiasm for space and aircraft continued and he became a professor in order to share his passion.

Neil Armstrong died on 25<sup>th</sup> August 2012, aged 82.



### Did You Know...?

- A modern smartphone is several thousand times more powerful than the computers used for Apollo 11!
- The Saturn V rocket was the largest rocket ever built, standing at 111 metres tall! It was higher than the Statue of Liberty and taller than many tower blocks!





# Questions

1. When was Neil Armstrong born? Tick one.

- ☐ July 1969
- ☐ August 1930
- ☐ September 1962
- ☐ September 1946

2. What happened to him when he was six years old? Tick one.

- ☐ His parents took him to Cleveland Air Race.
- ☐ He took flying lessons.
- ☐ He became a hero.
- ☐ He flew for the first time with his father.

3. What did Neil Armstrong love to do in his spare time?

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4. What does the author mean when they describe Neil Armstrong as a '**worldwide name**'?

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5. How could Armstrong afford to take flying lessons?

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6. Explain why the crew did not come straight back home after landing on the Moon.

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7. Why do you think people wanted the astronauts to tour the country after arriving home?

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8. How would you describe Neil Armstrong? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.

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# Answers

1. When was Neil Armstrong born? Tick one.
  - ☐ July 1969
  - ☒ **August 1930**
  - ☐ September 1962
  - ☐ September 1946
2. What happened to him when he was six years old? Tick one.
  - ☐ His parents took him to Cleveland Air Race.
  - ☐ He took flying lessons.
  - ☐ He became a hero.
  - ☒ **He flew for the first time with his father.**
3. What did Neil Armstrong love to do in his spare time?  
**He loved to make model aircraft.**
4. What does the author mean when they describe Neil Armstrong as a 'worldwide name'?  
**It means his name was known all over the world because he had achieved something so amazing: he was the first person on the Moon!**
5. How could Armstrong afford to take flying lessons?  
**He could afford to take flying lessons because he worked and earned money at a local chemist.**
6. Explain why the crew did not come straight back home after landing on the Moon.  
**Pupils' own responses explaining what they did on the Moon and why: The astronauts planted a flag of the United States and spent time collecting moon rocks so they could be studied back on Earth.**
7. Why do you think people wanted the astronauts to tour the country after arriving home?  
**Pupils' own responses that show an understanding of how popular the astronauts were as heroes having walked on the Moon.**
8. How would you describe Neil Armstrong? Use evidence from the text to support your answer.  
**Pupils' own responses that refer to information in the text. For example, I think that he was hardworking because he worked in a local chemist to raise money to pay for flying lessons. This shows that he was willing to work hard to achieve his dream. He was calm under pressure and able to fly in very dangerous situations and this would be useful on a mission to the Moon.**