

Neil Armstrong

We will investigate the early life of Neil Armstrong, the Moon Landing and the global response to this significant event. We will also look at the history of flight to place these events on a timeline.

Background information

Neil Alden Armstrong was born on 5th August 1930 in Ohio, USA. He was an astronaut that, during the Apollo 11 mission, was the first person to ever walk on the moon, followed by his crewmate Buzz Aldrin. The third astronaut that flew in this mission was called Michael Collins. The Moon Landing happened on 21st July 1969. To this day, only 12 people have walked on the moon. Neil Armstrong died on 25th August 2012 at the age of 82.

Knowledge and Understanding

In this unit pupils will learn:

- The mission to space was called Apollo 11
- The Apollo rocket was called Saturn V
- Buzz Aldrin and Michael Collins also travelled to the moon with Neil Armstrong
- The USA was in a 'Space Race' against the USSR (Russia)
- Apollo 11 launched into space on 16th July 1969
- Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin walked on the moon on 21st July 1969
- They landed in the Sea of Tranquility, a crater on the moon's surface
- They conducted experiments on the moon

Enquiry skills and Key concepts

- To use a variety of sources of information to verify statements
- To reflect upon the authenticity of sources
- To understand the impact of a significant person and how their actions have changed the world
- To understand changes within living memory

Key Vocabulary:

Apollo 11 – the spaceflight that first landed humans on the moon

Saturn V – the Apollo 11 rocket

Eagle – the lunar module (part of the space shuttle) that landed on the moon

Astronaut – person who goes into space

Mission – an important job to be completed

Orbit – go round

Lunar – to do with the moon

Solar system – the sun and the 8 planets around it

Commander – person in charge of the mission

NASA – National Aeronautics and Space Administration (where Neil Armstrong worked)