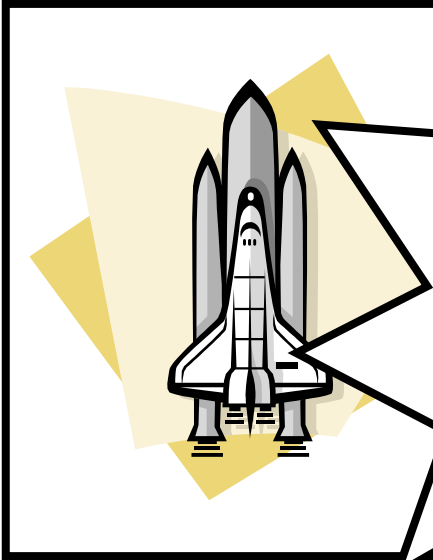


Travelling to the moon



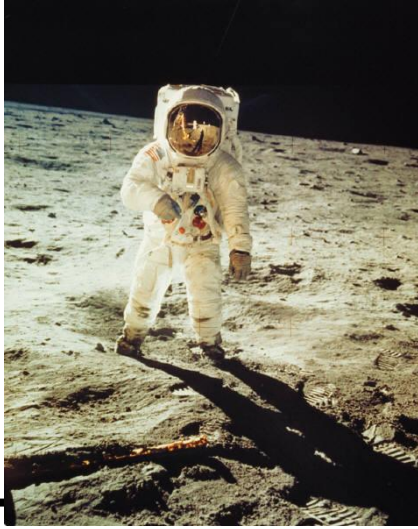
The astronauts travelled to the moon in a spacecraft which had two parts. The Apollo Spacecraft which would take the astronauts to the moon, and the Saturn V rocket which blasted them into space and the moon's orbit.

- * Initially the astronauts thought that it would take them just eight days to travel to the moon and back to earth.
- * When they were in the spacecraft the astronauts ate small cubes of bacon for breakfast and sucked on plastic tubes for coffee.
- * The astronauts checked they were going the right way by looking at the stars.
- * When they needed to sleep the astronauts zipped themselves into hammocks (like sleeping bags) so they would not float around and bump into things.
- * After lift off the astronauts had to turn the spacecraft slowly as it traveled so that the sun would not overheat it on one side.
- * Finally, after 4 days, the Apollo Spacecraft entered the moon's orbit.

Did you know?

- * When they poured water into a spoon and turned it upside down, the water stayed in the spoon because there is no gravity in space.

Opening Facts



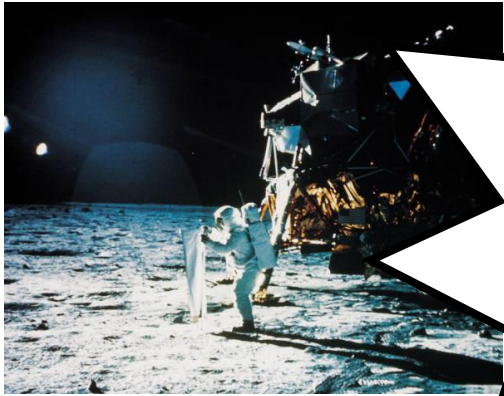
Three American astronauts were chosen for the Apollo 11 team. They had all been pilots, so they could fly planes.

- The first astronaut was Neil Armstrong who was 38 years old. He was the first man to walk on the moon.
- The second astronaut was 'Buzz' Aldrin who was 35 years old. He went with Neil Armstrong on the moon's surface to collect rock samples.
- The third astronaut was Michael Collins who was 34 years old and he flew the Columbia Command Module where the astronauts worked, ate and slept.
- The Apollo 11 Spacecraft was launched on the 16th July 1969.

Did you know?

- The astronauts had to have hundreds of hours training, learning how to move around without gravity and in their spacesuits.
- They also had to learn how to eat, drink, sleep and even go to the toilet in space.

Landing on the moon.



Just Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin got into the Eagle Lunar Module to land on the moon. Michael Collins stayed in the Columbia ready to pick them up when they came back from the Moon.

- * Firstly, Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin landed on the moon in the Eagle Lunar Module which they named.
- * Once they were on the moon the astronauts found it difficult to find a smooth place to land because the moon is full of wide craters and bumpy rocks.
- * The Lunar Module nearly crashed as it landed because the computer driving the Eagle was heading for some giant rocks. But Buzz Aldrin decided to take over from the computer so they did not crash.
- * They landed at a place on the moon called 'The Sea of Tranquility', which means it was a quiet and smooth place.
- * When they landed they said to Ground Control "The Eagle has landed."

Did you know?

- The Lunar Module was nearly out of fuel when the astronauts landed and Ground Control were very worried, because they would have then been lost in space with no fuel to get back to Earth.

On the Moon and placing the flag



Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin were supposed to rest when they had landed on the moon, but they were too EXCITED!! So they got ready to go out onto the Moon immediately.

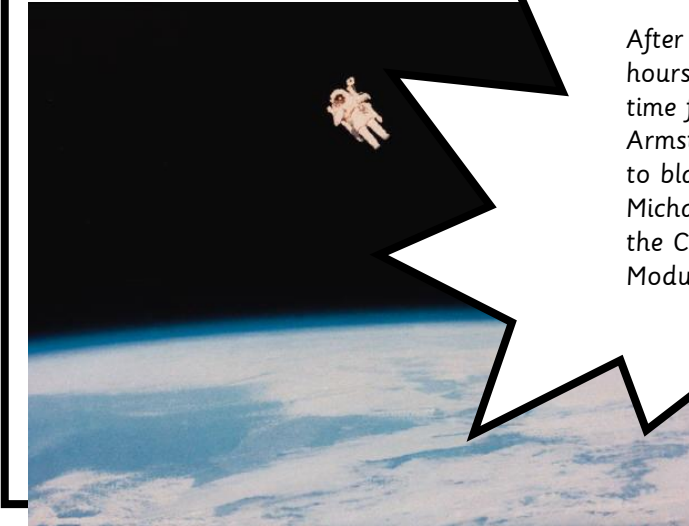
- Before they could go out onto the Moon, Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin had to wear their special spacesuits.
- The astronauts had to wear their spacesuits to keep them warm.
- Inside the spacesuits there was oxygen in a small tank so they could breathe, a radio like a walkie talkie so they could talk to each other and Ground Control, and even drinks for them to sip as they worked on the moon.
- They also had to wear a helmet which has special glass over their faces to protect them from the sun's blinding light.
- It took FOUR HOURS for them to get ready to go out onto the moon.
- Once they were out on the Moon's surface they had work to do. They collected moon rocks and soil, set up an experiment to measure the sun's rays, set up a laser beam to measure how far away Earth was and they took some photographs.
- Buzz Aldrin and Neil Armstrong placed the American flag on the Moon's surface to show that they had been there. But on the Moon there is no wind so they had to put wire in the flag so it looks like it is waving.

Did you know?

* Neil Armstrong was the first man to set foot on the Moon, and when he did he said,

“This is one small step for man, but one giant leap for mankind.”

Returning to Earth



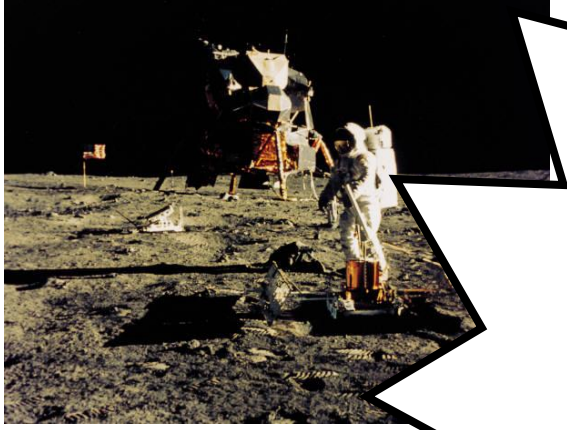
After nearly a whole day (24 hours) on the moon it was time for Buzz Aldrin and Neil Armstrong to leave. They had to blast off the Moon and find Michael Collins who was still in the Columbia Command Module waiting for them.

- * Michael Collins had the job of looking out for the Eagle Lunar Module out of his window, and then when he saw it he had to steer the Columbia Command Module so that it joined the Eagle Lunar Module.
- * Once the two modules had joined Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin climbed in to join Michael Collins in Columbia.
- * After the Module was pulled back by the Earth's gravity they could then relax and sleep.
- * When the Module was near to Earth it became very hot as it was traveling very fast, but there was a heat shield to protect the astronauts.
- * Once they were really close the landing parachutes were put up and these helped the Module to float down and land in the Pacific Ocean.

Did you know?

- It took three days for the astronauts to reach Earth.
- The whole journey to the Moon and back had taken 8 days, 3 hours and 18 minutes.

Facts Learned from Apollo 11



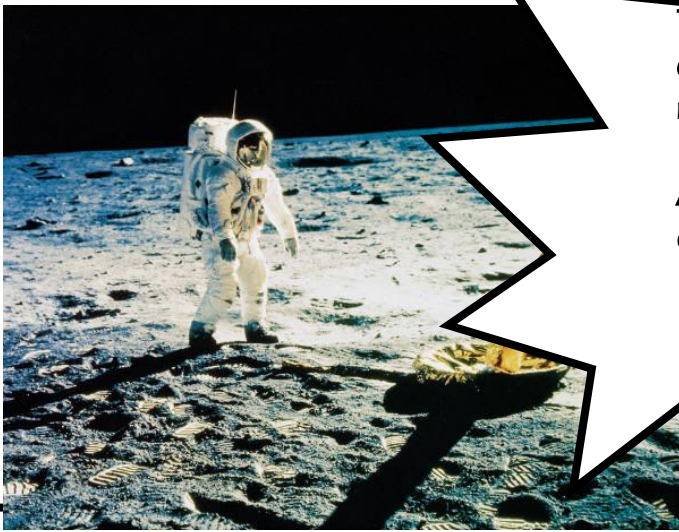
Through the experiments carried out on the Moon, they found there are no signs of life on the moon.

- * The rock samples taken from the Moon showed that it is about as old as the Earth - 4,600 million years old.
- * Tiny coloured beads of glass were found in the soil samples taken from the Moon.
- * The Apollo Mission also showed us that in the future we could travel even further than the Moon into space!!

Did you know?

- * A Russian businessman has paid millions of pounds to be trained with some astronauts so that he can travel into Space.
- * Some people say that in the future we maybe able to go on holiday in Space or even to the Moon!!!

The First Lunar Landing



Three American astronauts flew to the moon on the 16th July 1969. They were Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin and Michael Collins.

- * Their **spacecraft** was called **Apollo 11**/Saturn V.
- * The part of the spacecraft which took two of the astronauts to the moon was called a **Lunar Module**, and the astronauts named it **Eagle**.
- * Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin went in the Eagle to the moon.
- * **Michael Collins stayed** in the Command Module orbiting around the moon, and waited for them to return to take them all back to Earth.
- * **Neil Armstrong** was the **first man** to step on the moon.
- * Buzz Aldrin tried to run on the moon but it looked as if he was jumping because there is **no gravity on the moon**.
- * Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin had to **collect moon rocks** and **measure how far** away Earth was whilst they were on the moon.
- * The astronauts **placed the American flag** on the moon to show that they had been there.

Did you know?

- * It took **three days** for the astronauts to get back to Earth, and they landed in the Pacific Ocean.
- * The moon rocks showed that the moon is **as old as the Earth** and that **nothing lives on the moon**.