

Year 5 History Knowledge Organiser – Moon Landings

Curriculum Objectives

- I can identify key dates in the space race leading up to the first landing.
- I can explore the conspiracy theories linked with the moon landings.
- I can explore the Apollo 11 mission.
- I can identify Sputnik.
- I can explore the history of space travel.

Key Questions

- When did the space race begin and end?
- Name 3 conspiracy theories.
- Name the 3 astronauts on-board Apollo 11
- Why did the space race begin?

Key Knowledge: Chronology

04.10.1957	The first man-made satellite is launched into space, named Sputnik 1. (USSR)
03.11.1957	Laika the dog becomes the first animal to be sent into space. (USSR)
18.08.1960	The first camera-equipped satellite is launched into space. (USA)
12.04.1961	Yuri Gagarin becomes the first man in space and orbits the Earth once. (USSR)
16.06.1961	Valentina Tereshkova becomes the first woman to travel to space. (USSR)
18.03.1965	Alexei Leonov becomes the first person to conduct a spacewalk. (USSR)
14.07.1965	Mariner 4 (a probe) returns to Earth with close range images of Mars. (USA)
23.08.1966	The first picture of the Earth is taken from the orbit of the moon. (USA)
20.07.1969	Neil Armstrong becomes the first man to land on the moon. (USA)

Key Knowledge: Conspiracy Theories

Flag	Some people question how the American flag appears to be waving in the wind when the moon's surface has no atmosphere.
Footprints	The surface of the moon is thought to be similar to dry sand on a beach. Given this information, some people question how footprints were present at the moon landing and why they were so clear.
Lack of Stars	Some people question why there are no stars present in the images of the moon landing.
Shadows	Conspiracy theorists, who have studied the moon landing photographs, claim that the shadows are pointing in the wrong direction, considering the position of the sun in space.

Selected Vocabulary and Key Knowledge

Sputnik 1	First satellite to be launched into space by Russia.
Apollo 11	First spacecraft to land humans on the moon.
USSR	Union of the Soviet Socialist Republic of Russia
NASA	National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Cold War	A period of tension after WW11
Mariner 4	First space probe to be sent to Mars.
Space Probe	An unmanned spacecraft sent to gather research into space.
Yuri Gagarin	First human sent into space (1961).
Laika	First animal (a dog) to be sent into space.
Alexei Leonov	First person to complete a spacewalk.
Valentina Tereshkova	First woman to go to space.
Michael Collins	Third astronaut on-board Apollo 11 mission.
Buzz Aldrin	Second astronaut on-board Apollo 11 mission.
Neil Armstrong	First man to ever walk on the moon (USA).

