

NAME: _____



A Trip to the Moon

1. What have you heard about man's first trip to the moon? Have you seen television footage, or heard your grandparents talk about it? Write a journal entry in your response notebook to tell what you already know about this amazing event in our history. Be sure to include a list of questions that you still have.

2. A *synonym* for a word is another word that has the same meaning. For example, you can run *fast* and you can run *quickly*. The two words have the same meaning. Choose a synonym from the word bank to fill in for each word in the left column. Note: You may use a synonym dictionary (thesaurus) for this activity. Then, tell if the word given is a noun or a verb.

	SYNONYM	Noun or Verb?	Word Bank
a) shuttle			foot section
b) module			bookmark gather
c) collect			rattle place
d) plant			indicate smell
e) mark			section take

3. In each of the sentences below, tell if the word in **bold** is a noun or a verb by circling the correct answer in brackets.

- a) The waiter asked her to **indicate** (noun/ verb) where she would like to sit.
- b) They looked at their football tickets to find out which **section** (noun/ verb) their seats were in.
- c) The crowd began to **gather** (noun/ verb) at the gates before the concert.
- d) She planned to **take** (noun/ verb) a taxicab home from the movie theater because it would be getting dark.
- e) The judge asked the witness to **place** (noun/ verb) his hand on the Bible.



A Trip to the Moon

Picture a hot day in July. What types of activities might you be doing: Playing catch? Riding bikes? Swimming at a cottage? Traveling with your family? On July 20, 1969 two American astronauts were on the trip of a lifetime. With Michael Collins remaining in orbit, Neil Armstrong and Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin took their first steps on the moon!

On July 16, they (and a crew of five others) had lifted off from the **Kennedy Space Center** in Florida in a spacecraft called **Apollo 11**. The goal of this trip was to have the first successful **manned landing** on the moon. The entire trip would be just eight days, but it would mark a major event in human history.

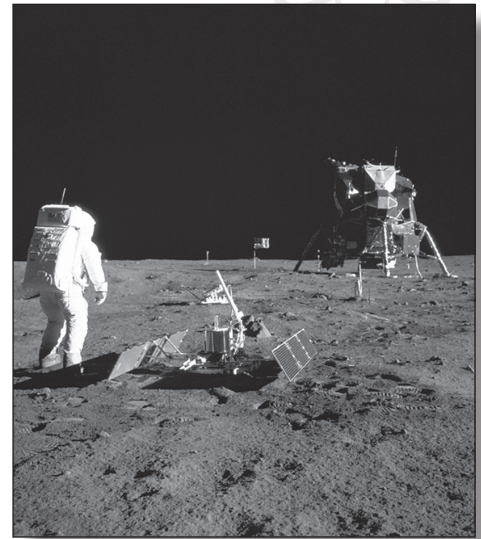


Image courtesy of NASA



MAKE A CONNECTION: If you were on board the Apollo 11 and could only bring three items, what would they be? Explain each choice.

The Apollo 11 was made of three parts: the **command module** (CM), the **service module** (SM) and the **lunar module** (LM). The CM and SM are the main parts of the craft where the crew's quarters and flight control sections are located. **The Command Module** is cone-shaped and is located on top of the **Service Module**. The **Service Module** is "cylinder shaped" and is located below the **Command Module** and above the **Lunar Module**. The **Lunar Module** is the portion that lands on the Moon and is located below the **Service Module**. Together, they are called the CSM. It did not touch down on the moon. Instead, the lunar module shuttled the astronauts to the moon and then back to the waiting CSM. The nickname for the CSM was "Columbia" and the nickname for the LM was the "Eagle". You may have heard the story of Neil Armstrong reporting over his radio that "the Eagle has landed".

The astronauts spent about two and a half hours on the moon, collecting samples and taking photographs. They brought back 46 pounds (21 kg) of moon rocks! Before leaving, they planted an American flag, and a plaque that read: "Here men from the planet Earth first set foot upon the moon. July 1969 A.D. We came in peace for all mankind." The crew splashed down safely in Hawaii on July 24, 1969.

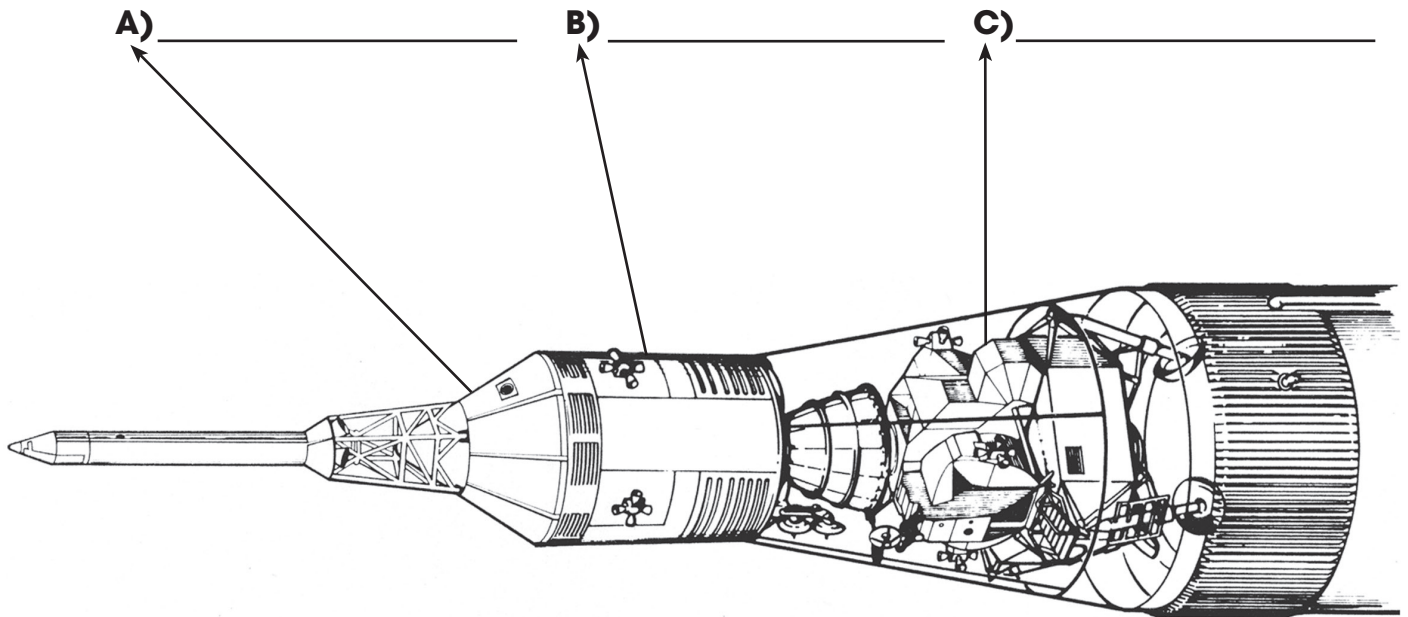


A Trip to the Moon

1. Number the events from **1** to **5** in the order they occur in...

- _____ a) A plaque is placed on the moon that reads: *Here men from the planet Earth first set foot upon the moon. July 1969 A.D. We came in peace for all mankind.*
- _____ b) Apollo 11 lifts off from the Kennedy Space Center.
- _____ c) Commander Neil Armstrong steps out onto the moon for the first time.
- _____ d) Apollo 11 splashes down in Hawaii.
- _____ e) The "Eagle" separates from "Columbia" and lands on the moon's surface.

2. "This is a diagram of the Apollo 11 spacecraft. Label the three main parts."





A Trip to the Moon



3. Answer each question with a complete sentence.

a) Why do you think two additional astronauts were needed for this mission if they did not get to walk on the surface of the moon?

b) Which two parts of Apollo 11 were designed to stay together?

c) What did the astronauts do while they were on the moon?

Research & Extension

1. Recently, some people have questioned whether the U.S. actually put a man on the moon, and suggest the whole event was staged. There certainly was a lot of pressure on the U.S. at the time to be the first country to set foot on the moon. Could it have been so much pressure that they made the whole thing up? Conduct research to find out the arguments made to support that the whole thing was a hoax. Track your findings in a T-Chart that lists each point given to prove why it was all a hoax. Then, find out what NASA has to say about this conspiracy theory. Add the counter-arguments to your chart. What do you think? Write an expository essay for or against the conspiracy theory. (Use the five paragraph format for your essay. The chart will help you.)
2. You may have noticed that the spacecraft on this mission was the Apollo 11. Did you happen to wonder if there were other Apollo spacecrafts? Conduct research into this and write a report that details what happened to all of the other Apollo spacecraft.
3. In this creative writing assignment, you will tell the fictional story of what happened on Apollo 10 - the one before Apollo 11. Consider what might have happened on an earlier and failed mission. Be sure that your story includes a lot of action and description.



WEB CONNECTION

To watch footage of the first moon landing, visit the NASA video library at: www.hq.nasa.gov/alsj/a11/video11.html

To hear a recording of Neil Armstrong stepping onto the moon, visit: www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/apollo/apollo11_audio.html