

# 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

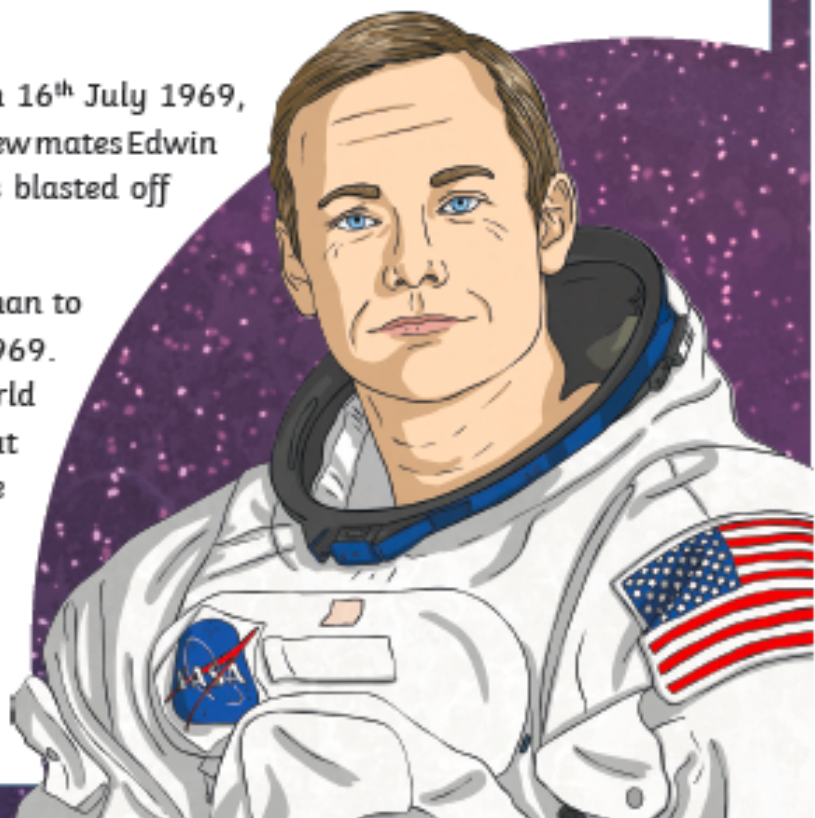
- He was a keen Boy Scout.
- He suffered from travel sickness as a child, but was fine in space!

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.





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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.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_