HOW THE INTERNET STARTED

The Internet was created by combining the ideas and talents of many people. Organizations and individuals have worked together for many years to make the Internet a valuable resource that it is today.

It was 1957 when the Soviet Union launched Sputnik, the first man-made satellite. Americans were shocked by the news. The Cold War was at its peak, and the United States and the Soviet Union considered each other enemies. If the Soviet Union could launch a satellite into space, it was possible that it could launch a missile at North America.
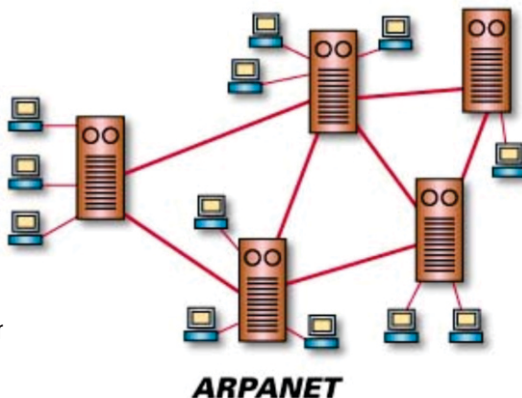
ARPANET
President Dwight D. Eisenhower created the Advanced Research Projects Agency (ARPA) in 1958 as a direct response to Sputnik's launch. ARPA's purpose was to give the United States a technological edge over other countries. One important part of ARPA's mission was computer science.

The network, called ARPANET, was connected to ensure if one section of the network was damaged, the remaining computers on the network would still be able to communicate with each other.

Without ARPANET, the Internet wouldn't look or behave the way it does today it might not even exist. Although other groups were working on ways to network computers, ARPANET established the protocols used on the Internet today.

ARPANET Control Center

ARPANET

A Honeywell computer, used to connect to ARPANET

A computer node (workstation) DEC's PDP-10 added to the ARPANET

NSFNET

The National Science Foundation created NSFNET in the mid-1980s. NSFNET used the technology developed for ARPANET to allow universities and schools to share with each other. By 1987, NSFNET could no longer handle the amount of information that was being transferred. The National Science Foundation improved the network to allow more information to transfer. This improved, high speed network became the Internet.

Public Access

In the 1980s, most of the people accessing the Internet were scientists and researchers. In the early 1990s, many companies started to offer access to home users. This allowed anyone with a modem and a computer to access the Internet.
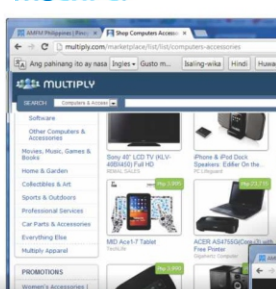
World Wide Web

In 1990, Tim Berners-Lee developed a system designed to simplify navigation on the Internet. In time, this system became known as the World Wide Web. It didn't take long for some people to mistakenly identify the Internet and the Web as the same thing. The Internet is a global interconnection of computer networks; the World Wide Web is a way to navigate this massive network. In sailing terms, it's like comparing an ocean to a ship.

Commercial Sites

In the next century, over 14 billion people had access to the Internet. To reach this huge market, most big companies created their own sites on the World Wide Web to sell or provide information about their products. There are now millions of companies on the Web.

Lesson 2 How the Internet Started

Lab. 2.1   **In The Beginning**

Estimated Completion time: 15 - 20 Minutes

Score

Directions:

1. Launch **Inspiration**.
2. Open and perform **In the Beginning**.
3. Make a historical episode of Internet creation. Refer to your textbook for your guide. Type the needed data to complete the historical episode.
4. Click the topic title to show the blue drop-down arrow. Then click the arrow to show the subtopics.
5. If there is an extra symbol, right-click on it then cut.
6. Save the activity as **InTheBeginning**.

Preview: