

## The Real McCoy

Fill in the circle by the correct answer. Then write the answers to numbers 3, 4, and 5.

1. A patent is a license that keeps others from copying your \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) expression
- (B) discrimination
- (C) invention
- (D) legend

2. If something is “the real McCoy,” it is \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) automatic and acceptable
- (B) useful and successful
- (C) trusted and of the best quality
- (D) patented and mechanical

3. How do you think McCoy’s lubricator affected train travel? Explain your thinking.
- 
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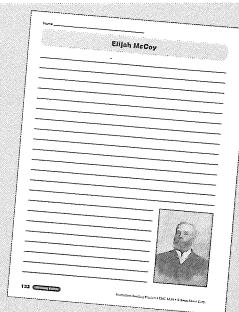
4. What is the purpose of paragraph 4?
- 
- 

5. What talents do you think Elijah McCoy possessed that made him a successful inventor?
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- 

### Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.

Write a newspaper article about Elijah McCoy’s challenges and success. Explain why his work is important today.



# The Space Race: 1960s

## **Level 1**

## Words to Know list, Reading Selection, and Reading Comprehension questions

**To the Moon and Back**

FBI in the circle by the current status. 28

**To the Moon and Back**

On October 4, 1957, the Soviet Union became the first nation to orbit a satellite called Sputnik 1. On April 3, 1961, Yuri Gagarin became the first man in space. The Soviet Union had made little noise about their space program until the U.S.S.R. beat the United States. The two countries were not the only ones to race into space. In 1961, a new U.S. space program called Project Mercury began. Seven Americans became the first astronauts in space. The first American to orbit the Earth was John Glenn. He became the first American to orbit the Earth three times. The Soviets were still ahead of the United States and became the first Americans to land on the Moon.

**Ambitious Goals**

John F. Kennedy became president in 1961. He said, "We must extend our goals beyond the exploration of space." He called for the United States to challenge the nation to put a man on the Moon by the end of the decade. Some people didn't think it could be done. The president gave a speech at the White House, and he said, "We choose not to retreat like men who have no sense of purpose." And because they did not want to give up, they went forward.

Astronaut John Glenn, Jr., flew into space again in February 1962, setting the Earth record for the most orbits in space. The Gemini program began in 1963 with the goal of getting astronauts to the Moon.

In 1964, the Gemini program was successful, and so was the Apollo program. The Apollo program took the astronauts well past the Moon. In 1967, America had three astronauts in the Moon. A Soviet commented how lost he felt in the void of space.

**The Apollo Program**

The United States began the Apollo program with the goal of taking people to the Moon. The United States, however, is Soviet Russia was the first to reach the Moon. Then the crew of Apollo 11 landed on the Moon.

The descent module of the Apollo 11 mission was about 10 feet off the ground when the crew took a picture of the Moon's surface. The Moon's surface is covered with craters and rocks. The crew of Apollo 11 landed on the Moon on July 20, 1969, with the name of the module being the Eagle. As the module took off on July 21, 1969, with the name of the module being the Eagle. As the module took off, the first man landed on the Moon, President Kennedy's dream had come true. The first man to walk on the Moon was Neil Armstrong and Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin. They walked and talked directly with President Kennedy. They also took a flag and walked on the surface of the Moon. With a great flag, stood America's pride in the moon.

Amelia Earhart the ten.

Want to know  
To the Moon  
and Back

Soviet Union  
satellite  
technology  
program  
project  
astronauts  
conquest  
challenged  
decade  
orbiting  
parachute  
spacecraft  
proud  
initiated  
achievement  
honor module

Richard Rodgers/MPTV.NET

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Richard Rodgers/MPTV.NET

The Space Race Table 18

**Level 2** ■ ■

## Words to Know list, Reading Selection, and Reading Comprehension questions

## **Level 3**

## Words to Know list, Reading Selection, and Reading Comprehension questions

## **Assemble the Unit**

Reproduce and distribute one copy for each student:

- Visual Literacy page: Moon Landing, page 141
  - Level 1, 2, or 3 Reading Selection and Reading Comprehension page and the corresponding Words to Know list
  - Graphic Organizer of your choosing, provided on pages 180–186
  - Writing Form: Space Travel in the 1960s, page 142

## Introduce the Topic

Read aloud and discuss the photo and caption on page 141.

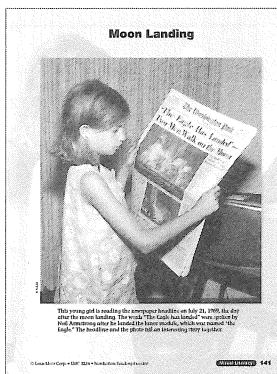
Explain that the space race of the 1960s was a race between the United States and the Soviet Union. Tell students that the goal was to land people on the moon.

## **Read and Respond**

Form leveled groups and review the Words to Know lists with each group of students. Instruct each group to read their selection individually, in pairs, or as a group. Have students complete the Reading Comprehension page for their selection.

## **Write About the Topic**

Read aloud the leveled writing prompt for each group. Tell students to use the Graphic Organizer to plan their writing. Direct students to use their Writing Form to respond to their prompt.



## Visual Literacy

## Writing Form

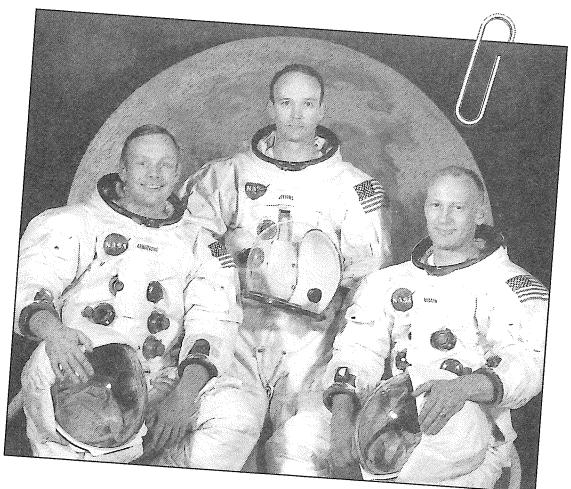
# Moon Landing



This young girl is reading the newspaper headline on July 21, 1969, the day after the moon landing. The words "The Eagle has landed" were spoken by Neil Armstrong after he landed the lunar module, which was named "the Eagle." The headline and the photo tell an interesting story together.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

# **Space Travel in the 1960s**



## Words to Know

### To the Moon and Back

Soviet Union

satellite

technology

program

project

astronauts

cosmonaut

challenged

decade

orbiting

parachute

spacecraft

peak

insisted

achievement

lunar module

## Words to Know

### Moon Landing

telescopes

revealed

orbiting

satellite

launched

Soviet Union

technology

astronauts

cosmonaut

commit

decade

program

parachute

spacecraft

plaque

exploration

## Words to Know

### Race to the Moon

binoculars

orbiting

satellite

Soviet Union

technology

cosmonaut

astronaut

explore

commit

decade

unmanned

spacecraft

parachute

exploration

plaque

The Space Race: 1960s ■■

The Space Race: 1960s ■■■

The Space Race: 1960s ■■■■



# To the Moon and Back

On October 4, 1957, the Soviet Union sent the first satellite, called Sputnik I, into space. People in the United States were shocked. The Soviet Union had more advanced technology than the U.S.! The two countries were not friendly. The space race had begun.

In 1958, a new U.S. space program called Project Mercury began. Seven American astronauts were chosen. The goal of the project was to prove that humans could fly in space. On April 12, 1961, Americans were shocked again. Yuri Gagarin, a Soviet cosmonaut, became the first human to travel in space. The Soviets were still ahead in the race, but America caught up in May. That is when Alan Shepard flew Freedom 7 and became the first American in space.

## Ambitious Goals

John F. Kennedy became president in 1961. The new president set new goals for America's space program. He asked Congress for more money. He challenged the nation to put a man on the moon by the end of the decade. Some people didn't think it could be done. The president gave a speech at Rice University in Texas. "We choose to go to the moon in this decade and do the other things, not because they are easy, but because they are hard..." he said.

Astronaut John Glenn, Jr., flew Friendship 7 in February 1962, orbiting the Earth three times. Months later, the Soviet cosmonaut Valentina Tereshkova became the first woman in space. The Gemini program began in 1965 with the goal of getting astronauts ready to land on the moon.

Both countries in the space race had their failures as well as successes. In 1967, America lost three astronauts in a fire. A Soviet cosmonaut was lost when his parachute did not open.

## Apollo Program

The United States began the Apollo program with the goal of taking people to the moon. In 1966, however, a Soviet spacecraft was the first to orbit the moon. Then the crew of Apollo 8 became the first humans to orbit the moon.

The decade of the 1960s was almost over. The space race reached its peak on July 20, 1969, with Apollo 11. As President Kennedy had insisted at the beginning of the decade, the first men landed on the moon. President Kennedy had not lived long enough to see America's great achievement in space. Neil Armstrong and Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin climbed out of the lunar module Eagle and walked on the surface of the moon. With a giant leap ahead, America finished the race.



Steve Mann / Shutterstock.com

This U.S. postage stamp honors Neil Armstrong, the first human to walk on the moon.

## To the Moon and Back

Fill in the circle by the correct answer. Then write the answers to numbers 3, 4, and 5.

1. Sputnik \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A landed on the moon  
 B was an American satellite  
 C was a cosmonaut  
 D was a Soviet satellite
  2. Armstrong and Aldrin were \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A the first humans to orbit the moon  
 B Soviet cosmonauts  
 C the first humans to walk on the moon  
 D the first humans in space
  3. Describe how the United States and the Soviet Union viewed each other during the 1960s.
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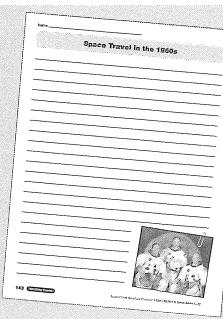
4. Do you agree with President Kennedy that going to the moon was a hard thing to do? Explain.
- 
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5. What question about the moon would you ask the astronauts who were there?
- 
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### Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.

List the astronauts and cosmonauts named in the text and tell what each one achieved.



# Moon Landing

Telescopes pointed into the night sky in October 1957 revealed a tiny moving object orbiting Earth. It was Sputnik I, the first satellite. It was launched by the Soviet Union. The American public was shocked to learn that the Soviet Union had more advanced technology than the U.S. The space race had begun.

## Humans in Space

Americans wanted to lead the race. Schools began teaching more science. Congress passed a bill to establish NASA, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. NASA began Project Mercury in 1958 with seven astronauts. The goal of the project was to prove that humans could fly in space. However, on April 12, 1961, Yuri Gagarin, a Soviet cosmonaut, proved it by becoming the first human to travel in space. The Soviets were ahead, but America caught up in May. That is when Alan Shepard flew Freedom 7 to become the first American in space.

A new president set new goals for America. President John F. Kennedy asked Congress for more funding to explore space. He said, "...I believe that this nation should commit itself to achieving the goal, before this decade is out, of landing a man on the moon and returning him safely to the Earth." Could it be done?

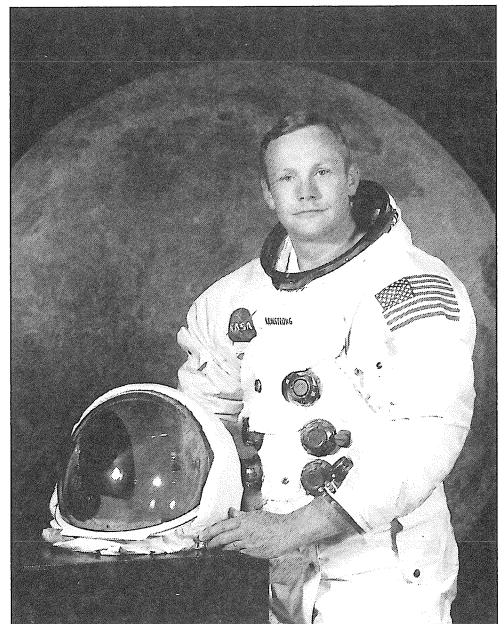
Astronaut John Glenn, Jr., flew Friendship 7 in February 1962, orbiting the Earth three times. Only months later, the Soviet cosmonaut Valentina Tereshkova became the first woman in space. NASA began the Gemini program in 1965 with the goal of getting astronauts ready to land on the moon.

Both nations in the space race had failures as well as successes. In 1967, America lost three astronauts in a fire. A Soviet cosmonaut was lost when his parachute did not open.

## To the Moon

NASA began the Apollo program in 1966 with the goal of taking people to the moon. That year, a Soviet spacecraft was the first to orbit the moon. Then the crew of Apollo 8 became the first humans to orbit the moon.

The decade of the 1960s was almost over. On July 20, 1969, Apollo 11 astronauts Neil Armstrong and Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin walked on the surface of the moon. They returned home safely, leaving behind a steel plaque that read in part: "We came in peace for all mankind." President Kennedy had not lived long enough to see America's great achievement in space. But his hopes for the peaceful exploration of space lived on.



© NASA

Neil Armstrong was the first Apollo 11 astronaut to step onto the surface of the moon.

## Moon Landing

Fill in the circle by the correct answer. Then write the answers to numbers 3, 4, and 5.

1. The space race of the 1960s took place between \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A the Gemini and Apollo programs  
 B the United States and the Soviet Union  
 C an astronaut and a cosmonaut  
 D Armstrong and Aldrin
  2. President John F. Kennedy \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A believed the U.S. could land a man on the moon  
 B put a steel plaque on the moon  
 C established NASA  
 D said, "We came in peace for all mankind."
  3. What effect did Sputnik have on America's space program?
- 
- 

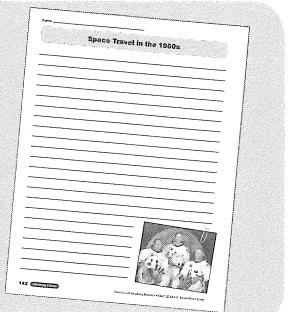
4. In your opinion, what were NASA's greatest accomplishments in the 1960s?
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5. Would you like to go to the moon? Explain your reasons.
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### Write About the Topic

Use the Writing Form to write about what you read.

Write a news article about the space race of the 1950s and 1960s. Describe what was achieved and by whom.



# Race to the Moon

If you had been alive in October of 1957, with a pair of good binoculars, you may have been able to see a piece of history in the night sky. It looked like a tiny dot orbiting the Earth. It was Sputnik I, the first satellite. The small satellite sent out a beeping signal to radios on Earth. Sputnik was no bigger than a beach ball, and it started a space race between two powerful nations, the United States and the Soviet Union.

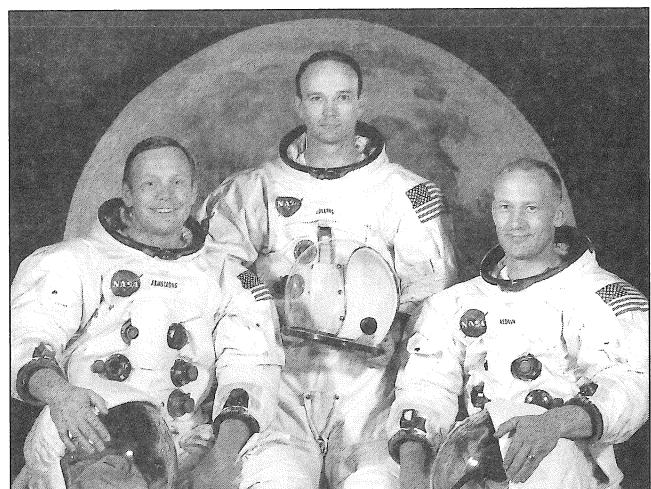
Americans were shocked that the Soviet Union had the advanced technology to send a satellite into orbit around the Earth. American schools began teaching more science. Congress passed a bill to establish NASA, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. NASA began Project Mercury in 1958, with the goal of proving that humans could fly in space. But on April 12, 1961, Yuri Gagarin, a Soviet cosmonaut, became the first human to travel in space. In May, astronaut Alan Shepard flew Freedom 7 to become the first American in space.

## Destination, Moon

President John F. Kennedy set high goals for America. He asked Congress for more funding to explore space. He said, "...I believe that this nation should commit itself to achieving the goal, before this decade is out, of landing a man on the moon and returning him safely to the Earth." Could it be done?

In February 1962, astronaut John Glenn, Jr., orbited the Earth three times. Months later, the Soviet cosmonaut Valentina Tereshkova became the first woman in space. In 1966, both nations landed an unmanned spacecraft on the moon. There were failures along the way, however. In 1967, America lost three astronauts in a fire. A Soviet cosmonaut was lost when his parachute did not open. In 1966, a Soviet unmanned spacecraft was first to orbit the moon. Then NASA's Apollo 8 carried the first humans to orbit the moon.

The decade of the 1960s was ending. On July 20, 1969, Apollo 11 astronauts Neil Armstrong and Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin became the first humans to walk on the moon. President Kennedy did not live long enough to see America reach the moon. But his hope for the peaceful exploration of space lived on. The astronauts returned home safely. They left behind a steel plaque with the words, "We came in peace for all mankind."



© NASA

This photo shows the entire Apollo 11 crew: Neil Armstrong, Michael Collins, and Buzz Aldrin. Collins was the Command Module Pilot, and orbited the moon while Armstrong and Aldrin landed on the moon.