

## Space Exploration Knowledge Base

This document contains facts about space missions and astronomical discoveries, including details about agencies, launch years, objectives, and notable achievements. It serves as a knowledge base for the Space Exploration Chatbot.

### Sputnik 1 (1957)

- Agency: Soviet Union
- Launch Year: 1957
- Objective: First artificial satellite to orbit Earth
- Trivia: Launched on October 4, 1957, sparking the space race. Orbited Earth every 96 minutes at an altitude of about 250 km. [\[\(https://aerospace.org/article/brief-history-space-exploration\)\]](https://aerospace.org/article/brief-history-space-exploration)

### Apollo 11 (1969)

- Agency: NASA (United States)
- Launch Year: 1969
- Objective: First human Moon landing
- Trivia: On July 20, 1969, Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin became the first humans to walk on the Moon. The mission returned 21.5 kg of lunar samples. [\[\(https://aerospace.org/article/brief-history-space-exploration\)\]](https://aerospace.org/article/brief-history-space-exploration)

### Hubble Space Telescope (1990)

- Agency: NASA/ESA
- Launch Year: 1990
- Objective: Observe distant galaxies and celestial objects

- Trivia: Launched April 24, 1990, it has captured images of over 1.5 million objects, including the Pillars of Creation. Serviced five times by space shuttle missions.[](<https://www.archives.gov/research/alic/reference/space-exploration.html>)

#### Curiosity Rover (2011)

- Agency: NASA (United States)

- Launch Year: 2011

- Objective: Explore Mars' surface and assess habitability

- Trivia: Landed on Mars August 5, 2012, in Gale Crater. Found evidence of ancient water flows and organic molecules. Still active as of 2025.[](<https://www.britannica.com/science/space-exploration>)