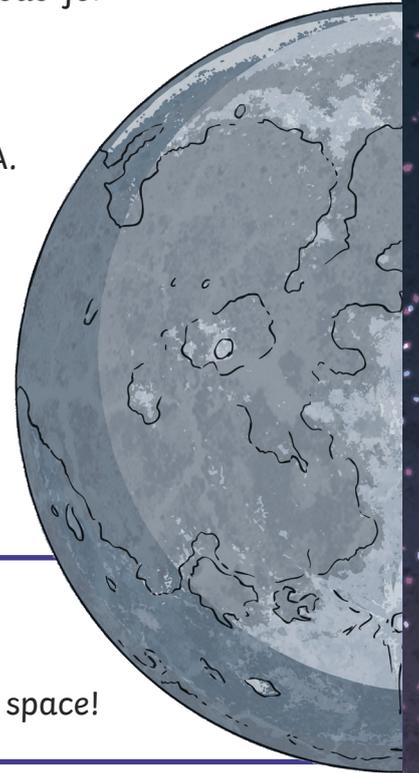


# First Man on the Moon

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

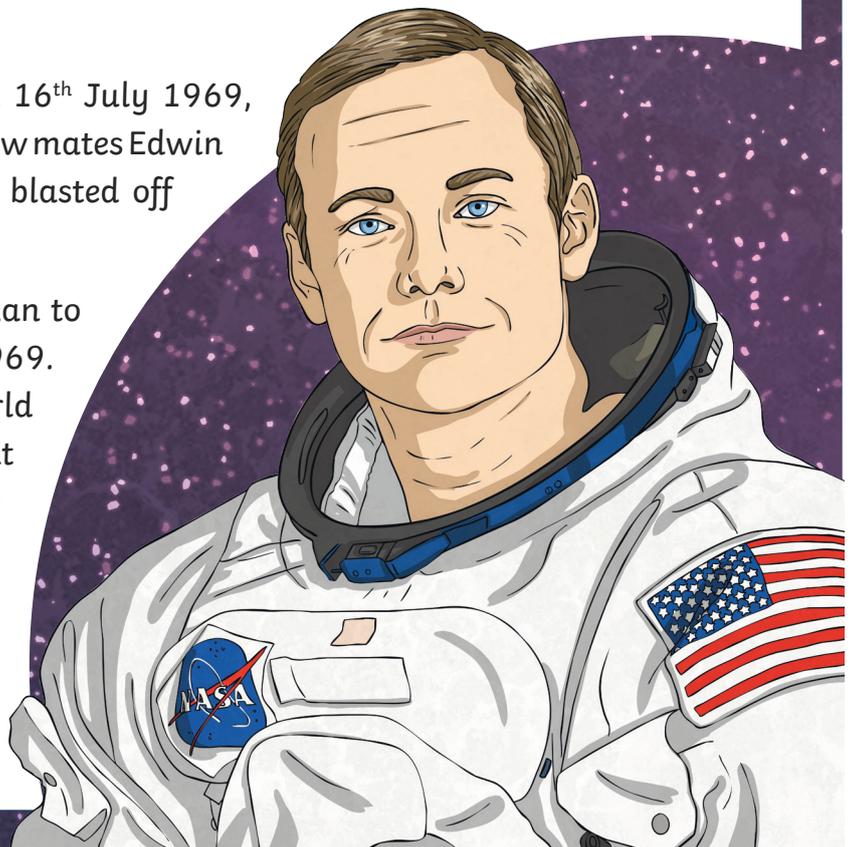
- He was a keen Boy Scout.
- He suffered from travel sickness as a child, but was fine in space!

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.



## First Man on the Moon

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!

