

## 10 Facts About the Moon Landing

1. The Moon is 238, 855 miles from Earth. It takes three days to reach it in a spacecraft.
2. There is gravity on the Moon but it is not as strong as on Earth. Gravity is the pulling force that pulls everything towards it. Gravity is six times weaker on the Moon. It is weaker because it is smaller.
3. There are mountains on the Moon and also seas. The seas look like dark areas through a telescope. The seas don't have any water. Instead, they are areas of solid lava.
4. In space, there is hardly any gravity at all. That means astronauts float around in their spacecraft. This is a very strange feeling. The Apollo 11 astronauts had to train for it.
5. The Apollo 11 spacecraft had two parts. The command module called Columbia and the lunar module. The lunar module was called Eagle. The command module orbited the Moon. When the Astronauts got to the Moon, they climbed into Eagle. Eagle took them from Columbia to the Moon's surface.
6. Eagle was very small. It was too small to have seats in. It dropped 60 miles to the Moon's surface, but Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin had to stand up in it.

### RETRIEVAL FOCUS

1. How many miles from Earth is the Moon?
2. Put these in order, from the most to least gravity?  
space                  Moon                  Earth
3. How many seconds of fuel were left when the lunar module (Eagle) landed?
4. Who worked out the maths that made the Moon landing possible?



7. When Neil Armstrong landed Eagle, it was nearly out of fuel. There were 25 seconds of fuel left.
8. Neil Armstrong was the first man to walk on the Moon. Buzz Aldrin was also the first to do something on the Moon. He went to the toilet there!
9. The Moon landing would not have happened without one woman. Her name was Katherine Johnson. She calculated the maths needed to get the astronauts there and how to get them back. She didn't have special computers to do it. She just used a pencil, paper and her own brain.
10. The USA is the only country to have put people on the Moon. Their last mission was in December 1972.

## VIPERS QUESTIONS

**I** Why were there no special computers to do the maths for the moon landing?

**V** Which word means to have solved using maths?

**I** When was the most recent Moon mission?

**R** What did the Eagle not have space for?

Answers:

1. 238, 855 miles
2. Earth, Moon, Space
3. 25 seconds
4. Katherine Johnson

I: They hadn't been invented yet / It was a long time ago (or similar)

V: Calculated

I: December 1972.

R: Seats