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[NASA Home](#) > [Education](#) > [For Students](#) > [Grades K-4](#) > [Stories](#)

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NASA Education

About NASA Education

For Educators

▼ For Students

For Students

Grades K-4

Grades K-4

Stories

Find It Fast

Play & Learn

Picture Dictionary

Homework Topics

Grades 5-8

Grades 9-12

Higher Education

Current Opportunities

NASA Kids' Club

Feature

Text Size [+](#) [-](#)

The First Person on the Moon

It was 1961. John F. Kennedy was the president of the United States. He wanted to land humans on the moon. The United States had just started trying to put people in space. Was NASA ready to go to the moon? The president and NASA knew they could do it. They were ready to put people on the moon. Apollo 11's mission was to land two men on the moon. They also had to come back to Earth safely.

Apollo 11 blasted off on July 16, 1969. Neil Armstrong, Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin and Michael Collins were the astronauts on Apollo 11.

Four days later, Armstrong and Aldrin landed on the moon. They landed on the moon in the Lunar Module. It was called the Eagle. Collins stayed in orbit around the moon. He did experiments and took pictures.

On July 20, 1969, Neil Armstrong became the first human to step on the moon. He and Aldrin walked around for three hours. They did experiments. They picked up bits of moon dirt and rocks.

They put a U.S. flag on the moon. They also left a sign on the moon.

The two astronauts returned to orbit, joining Collins. On July 24, 1969, all three astronauts came back to Earth safely.

President Kennedy's wish came true. It took less than 10 years. Humans had walked on the moon.

01.16.08



Astronauts Neil Armstrong, Mike Collins and Buzz Aldrin flew on the Apollo 11 mission. Image Credit: NASA



The sign the astronauts left on the moon says, "Here men from the planet Earth first set foot upon the moon July 1969, A.D. We came in peace for all mankind." Image Credit: NASA

[Back To Top](#)



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