



Objective

Students will learn about the Apollo 11 space mission, including its purpose, the key people involved, and what was accomplished during the expedition.

Arkansas State Standards Addressed:

English Language Arts

RI.2.1 Ask and answer such questions as who, what, where, when, and how to demonstrate understanding of key details in a text.

W.2.10 Write routinely over extended time frames - time for research, reflection and revision - and shorter time frames (e.g., a single sitting or day or two) for a range of discipline-specific tasks, purposes, and audiences.

Social Studies Frameworks:

H.12.2.5 Explain historical symbols and landmarks and the people and events associated with them.

Visual Arts Frameworks

P.6.2.1 Examine the ways that the presentation of artwork can communicate cultural stories and history (e.g., cave paintings, Egyptian pyramids, Toltec mounds).

Learning Goals:

Students will...

Understand the purpose of the Apollo 11 space mission and how that purpose is reflected in the artwork of the mission patch	
Know the main key players in the Apollo 11 mission, when it happened, and what was accomplished during the expedition	Do their own version of the mission patch that reflects their understanding of the mission

Materials Needed:

- *Moonshot: The Flight of Apollo 11* by Brian Floca. Other books detailing the Apollo 11 mission that would be great for reading aloud include *One Giant Leap* by Robert Burleigh and *Reaching for the Moon* by Buzz Aldrin.
- A picture of the Apollo 11 mission patch and others to show as examples, found online here: http://history.nasa.gov/mission_patches.html
- A copy of the *My Apollo 11 Mission Patch* worksheet for each student; PDF included on this file.

Procedures:

1. Before reading, ask students: Did you know that many years ago, men walked on the moon? Explain to the class that in July of 1969, three men – Buzz Aldrin, Neil Armstrong, and Michael Collins – went to the moon. Buzz Aldrin and Neil Armstrong became the first two humans to land on the Moon and walk on it.
2. Read *Moonshot*. After reading, note to students that *Apollo 11* had been the result of many years of study and failed expeditions – there were several “Apollos” before *Apollo 11*. There were also five lunar landings after *Apollo 11* – the last one was in December of 1972. No one

has been back to the moon since then. Take any questions the students have, time allowing, and review the particulars of the mission – who, what, when, where, and why – with students to test their understanding.

3. Show students the *Apollo 11* mission patch. Explain that mission patches have been created for each NASA manned mission since 1965 and the astronaut crew used to be the ones to design the patch. Now graphic designers help with the patch, but the crew still gets to have input into how they look. Each patch contains important symbols detailing what that mission was about. Ask: what do you notice on the patch? Why do you think they put those specific things on the patch? Guide them to note the different symbols on the patch: the bald eagle for the United States, the olive branch for peace, the moon, the Earth, and the name of the mission at the top.
4. If time, show students other notable mission patches. The patch for *Skylab 1*, which launched the precursor to the International Space Station, and the patch for *Gemini 5*, which launched a series of missions that helped astronauts learn how to survive in space, are good examples for students. Note how some of the patches include the names of the people who went on the mission.
5. Next, tell students that they will be creating their own mission patch for *Apollo 11*, using what they have learned about it. Explain that they won't be copying the old mission patch, but creating a new one using their creativity and knowledge. After they've completed their drawing and design, they will then write a description of their patch, explaining what they included and why.

Additional Resources at Bentonville Public Library

The following resources are specifically about the history of space exploration. Accelerated Reader Levels are included when available. All items are available for checkout at Bentonville Public Library; call numbers are included in brackets. Online resources are available through BPL's Student Portal: <http://www.bentonvillelibrary.org/student-portal/>

Books

- *Look to the Stars* by Buzz Aldrin. Non-Fiction. AR Reading Level: 7.2. [JNF 629.409 ALD]
- *Man on the Moon* by Pamela Dell. Non-Fiction. AR Reading Level: 7.6. [JNF 629.45 DEL]
- *Moon Over Star* by Dianna Hutts Aston. Picture Book. AR Reading Level: 4.3. [PIC Aston Dianna]
- *Moonshot* by Brian Floca. Non-Fiction. AR Reading Level: 4.8. [JNF 629.45 FLO]
- *Neil Armstrong and Traveling to the Moon* by Ben Hubbard. Non-Fiction. AR Reading Level: 6.9. [JNF 629.45 HUB]
- *One Giant Leap* by Robert Burleigh. Non-Fiction. AR Reading Level: 3.0. [JNF 629.45 BUR]
- *Reaching for the Moon* by Buzz Aldrin. Non-Fiction. AR Reading Level: 5.1. [JNF 92 Aldrin Buzz]
- *Team Moon* by Catherine Thimmesh. Non-Fiction. AR Reading Level: 7.5. [JNF 629.454 THI]
- *Who Is Neil Armstrong?* by Roberta Edwards. Non-Fiction. AR Reading Level: 5.4. [JNF 92 Armstrong Neil]

Online Resources

- *Pebble Go*, an online database geared specifically toward young learners, has a section on space exploration and the first moon landing. This can be found under Science/Earth and Space Science/Space Science/Exploring Space.
- *Rosen Power Knowledge Earth and Space Science*, an online database geared specifically toward young learners, has a section on space exploration and manned space mission, including Apollo 11. This can be found under Space/Space Exploration.

Explore Space Exhibit Information:

Explore Space: A Cosmic Journey, a traveling exhibition for libraries, is part of the STAR Library Education Network (STAR_Net) led by the National Center for Interactive Learning at the Space Science Institute. Exhibit partners include the American Library Association, the Lunar and Planetary Institute, and Afterschool Alliance. Explore Space is supported through a grant from the National Science Foundation.



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My Apollo 11 Mission Patch

Using what you learned from the book *Moonshot*, draw your own Apollo 11 mission patch.

Be sure to include details in your picture that help people understand what the Apollo 11 mission was about. After you've finished drawing, write a brief description to explain what you drew and why.



