

The Moon

Do you ever look The Moon at night? Do you wonder what it would be like to visit the moon? Read on to find out more...

Moon and Sun:

The Moon shines very brightly, but it does not make its own light. It reflects the light of the Sun. When the Sun comes up for our daytime we think that the Moon goes away but it doesn't, it's just harder to see because the sky is so bright. Sometimes, if you look carefully, you can see the Moon in the sky during the day.



Did you know?

Day temperature: 107°C

Night temperature: -153°C

Distance from Earth: 238,857 miles

Diameter (from one side to the other): 2,160 miles

Length of Day: 708 hours

Orbit:

The Moon is the only thing that naturally goes round (orbits) the Earth – anything that does this is called a satellite. It takes the Moon about 28 days to go round the Earth once, we call this a lunar month.

Did you know we only ever see the same side of the Moon?

During its orbit the Moon is sometimes covered by a shadow of the Earth, this is what gives us the phases of the Moon, when it is waxing (growing bigger) and waning (getting smaller) with shapes including crescent and gibbous.

Moonwalking:

Only 12 people have ever walked on the Moon! The first person was Neil Armstrong on 20th July 1969. There were two other men on the mission: Buzz Aldrin and Michael Collins. Their space shuttle was called Apollo 11. It took them just over 3 days to get there.

You may have seen a film of people walking on the Moon and they bounce along. This is because the Moon's gravity is not as strong as the Earth's so people take longer to come back down when they go up in the air.

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Questions About The Moon

1. Who was the first man to walk on the Moon?

2. Where does the Moon get its light from?

3. How wide is the Moon?

4. How cold is the Moon at night?

5. What makes the shadow on the Moon to give it the different phases?

6. Why is the Moon warmer than Earth in the day?

7. Where does the Moon go in the daytime?

8. How long is a lunar month?

9. What is the distance from us to the Moon?

10. It took the astronauts just over 3 days to get to the Moon – how far could you travel in 3 days?

Questions About The Moon

Answers

1. Who was the first man to walk on the Moon?

Neil Armstrong

2. Where does the Moon get its light from?

It reflects the Sun's light/rays

3. How wide the Moon?

2,160 miles

4. How cold is the Moon at night?

- 153°C

5. What makes the shadow on the Moon to give it different phases?

The Earth

6. Why is the Moon warmer than Earth in the day?

It is nearer the Sun in the day.

7. Where does the Moon go in the daytime?

Nowhere – it stays in the daytime sky

8. How long is a lunar month?

About 28 days / 4 weeks / 27.3 days / 29-30 days

(The range is because it depends also on the position of The Earth)

9. What is the distance from us to the Moon?

238,857 miles

10. It took the astronauts just over 3 days to get to the Moon – how far could you travel in 3 days?

Open ended for discussion to put the journey into perspective and how fast they must have been travelling to get there in such a short time.