



MAN ON THE MOON

The space race was on to see which country would be the first to put a man on the moon. The U.S.S.R. had put the first satellite into space. It was called *Sputnik*. The United States was working hard to get a man on the moon. It was a tough goal. This had never been done before. After years and years of hard work, it finally happened.

Neil Armstrong was the first man ever to step on the moon. His famous words were, "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind." The date was July 20, 1969. Pictures and stories of this famous and historic event were found in newspapers around the world. There were pictures of the astronauts' footprints on the moon. Millions of people watched the event on television.

Buzz Aldrin was also with Armstrong on the voyage to the moon. Each of them spent hours on the moon doing tests and taking samples. The surface of the moon was fine and powdery. There is little gravity on the moon, so the two men were able to walk and hop freely on the surface. They also posted the American flag on the moon. There is no wind on the moon, so their footprints might still be there!

STORY QUESTIONS

1. What type of accomplishment was putting a man on the moon?
 a. general accomplishment c. difficult accomplishment
 b. sad accomplishment d. disappointing accomplishment
2. What conclusions can be drawn about the first trip to the moon?
 a. It was a mission fraught with arguments and disagreements.
 b. It was a successful mission.
 c. It was an experience never to be repeated.
 d. It was an unorganized mission.
3. Which of the following statements about the moon is not supported by information in the passage?
 a. There is little gravity on the moon.
 b. There is plenty of water on the moon.
 c. The surface of the moon is fine and powdery.
 d. Neil Armstrong was the first man on the moon.
4. What is the meaning of the phrase "one giant leap for mankind" as used in the passage?
 a. It was a huge accomplishment and learning opportunity for humankind.
 b. It was an example of their willingness to sacrifice for humankind.
 c. Humankind would soon be making those same steps.
 d. There was not a lot learned from the experience.