

**Year Group:** Year 1 and 2

**Length:** 25 mins

**Starting Positions:** Sit in your own space on the floor

### Learning Intention:

*To know about...*

- The life of Neil Armstrong and why he is a significant individual from the past.
- To nurture curiosity about earth and space.
- To nurture curiosity about the past.
- To understand the basic needs for human survival.

### Synopsis:

- You and your friend Celena visit an air-show and get to fly in a small plane.
- You use Celena's telescope to look up at the stars and to see the moon.
- You are bullied at school by Sam, and to prove the bullies wrong you learn to fly planes.
- Because you are a pilot you are called up to fight in Korea, where you save injured Sam.
- After the war Celena encourages you to apply for a job at NASA, flying spacecraft.
- You get the job at NASA and are put on the Apollo 11 mission with Buzz and Michael.
- You fly the Eagle rocket to the moon and there is a rough landing.
- You are the first person to walk on the moon, and you check the Eagle isn't broken.
- You collect rocks, take photos and plant a flag on the moon.
- You gaze back at earth and imagine what all your friends and family are doing.
- You return to earth, meet the President and there's a street party for you.

### Characters

- **Celena**
- **Sam**
- **Pilot**
- **NASA boss** – Bob Graham recruited Neil to NASA (then NACA) as a test pilot in 1955
- **Buzz** – Buzz Aldrin was Apollo 11's Lunar Module Pilot, he landed on the moon with Neil
- **Michael** – Michael Collins was the third astronaut on the Apollo 11 mission
- **President** – President Nixon was in power in 1969 and greeted the returning astronauts

### Locations:

- **Ohio** – Neil grew up in a town in Ohio; his father took him to air shows in Cleveland and Warren.
- **School** – Neil attended Blume High School in Wapakoneta.

- **The airfields** – Neil learnt to fly at the airfields in Wapakoneta.
- **Korea** – in 1950 Neil was called up as a naval aviator for the Korean War. Neil stayed in the Navy until 1960.
- **NASA headquarters** – Based in Washington.
- **The Eagle** – The Eagle lander was the part of the rocket that landed on the moon.
- **The moon** – The earth's only natural satellite.
- **The sea** – The Apollo 11 astronauts landed in the Pacific Ocean on the 24<sup>th</sup> July 1969.
- **Street party** – A 'ticker tape parade' was held for the returning astronauts in New York.

## Glossary:

- **Air-show** – A show where people can go and watch aeroplanes fly and perform tricks.
- **Telescope** – An instrument that helps you see things that are really far away.
- **Cockpit** – The part of the plane where the pilot sits.
- **Astronaut** – A person who is trained to travel beyond the earth's atmosphere, in a spacecraft.
- **Gravity** – The force that causes things to fall towards earth, and stops us floating away.
- **Apollo 11** – The name of the first mission to the moon, led by Commander Neil Armstrong.

## Discussion:

### Story & Factual

- What did Celena think the moon might be made of?
- What shape is the moon?
- What did you see through Celena's telescope?
- What type of skills did NASA want their astronauts to have?
- What did you pack to take to the moon?
- Why did you have to wear a spacesuit on the moon?
- What did it feel like to walk on the moon?
- Why did you bring moon rocks and dust back to earth? What could they be used for?
- Where did your rocket land when it returned to earth?
- Which famous person did you meet when you returned to earth?

### PSHE & Philosophical

- Why do you think Sam bullied you?
- How did you feel when you were told you had to fight in the war?
- Sam used to bully you. Was it the right decision to help him when he was injured in the war?
- When you were on the moon, how did it feel to be so far away from your friends and family?
- Nobody owns the moon. Do you think people should be allowed to buy the moon?
- Would you like to go into space?

## Resources:

You'll find these follow up resources on your shared drive:

- **Literacy Resources** – Punctuation & Grammar; Reading; Creative Writing tasks
- **Photo Storyboard** – order the images from the story (or use them for other things – e.g. writing)
- **Quick Quiz** – re-cap key facts
- **Or try some recount, report or creative writing ideas of your own!**