

8F: The Space Race Collection

Text Previews



Sub-Unit 2: Scavenger Hunt and Internet Research

Lesson 1:

Scavenger Hunt:
Introducing the Collection

In October 1957, the world's first artificial satellite, *Sputnik 1*, was launched into orbit by the Soviets. Americans were shocked and confused. Would the satellite be used to spy on us? Were we in danger? What, exactly, did it mean?

Lesson 2:

Scavenger Hunt:
Exploring the Collection

In 1975, after nearly 20 years of competition in space and, behind the scenes, years of careful diplomatic negotiation and scientific cooperation, the United States and the Soviet Union carried out their first joint mission: the Apollo-Soyuz Test Project.

Lesson 3:

Research a Self-Selected Topic

In September 1962, about a year after Soviet cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin became the first person ever to orbit the Earth, President Kennedy addressed nearly 40,000 people in a football stadium at Rice University in Houston, Texas. It was time for the United States to take control of the Space Race, and the president had a plan.



Sub-Unit 3: Space Blogs and Collection Research

Lesson 2:

Space Blogs, Lesson 2

You Are Here

On December 7, 1972, the crew of the *Apollo 17* mission took a picture of the Earth from 28,000 miles away. Showing the planet fully illuminated and in full color for the first time, the image became known as "Blue Marble." In the midst of Cold War struggles over the Space Race and nuclear armament, the photograph was a revelation: a powerful reminder that all the Earth was one small planet, and that its inhabitants were united in their fate.

First to Fly

This passage describes what life was like for Yuri Gagarin during his April 1961 *Vostok* mission. It also details observations he made about what the Earth looks like from space.



Sub-Unit 4: Socratic Seminar and Internet Research

Lesson 2:

Conducting the Socratic Seminar

This statement was written by a White House speechwriter in case the *Apollo 11* mission to the moon were to go horribly wrong. The speech was to be delivered by the president if astronauts Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin became stranded on the moon's surface, unable to return.

Lesson 3:

Discuss: Internet Research

Flight: My Life in Mission Control

Before sending a human into space, American scientists wanted to know what space travel might do to an animal that was similar to us. On January 31, 1961, the US rocketed a chimpanzee into space.

First to Fly

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