



Space Busters Race to the Moon

1 Look at the text in parentheses on page 15: (tran-KWILL-it-ee). What does this text show you? How is it divided up? Why do you think “KWILL” is in capital letters? (Say the word out loud and listen carefully.) Now try writing your own version for the word “astronaut.”

Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.3.5

2 Pages 16–20 are about the Moon landing. Describe the problem that Armstrong and Aldrin encountered as they got closer to the Moon. Describe what Armstrong did to solve this problem.

Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.4.5

3 Read pages 22–23 about the spacesuits that Armstrong and Aldrin wore on the Moon. What is the purpose of the main photo? How does the labeled photo help you understand the text?

Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.3.7, RI.4.7

4 Turn to page 24. What is the name of the force that holds people on the ground? Why do things feel lighter on the Moon?

Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.3.4, RI.4.4

5 When Armstrong and Aldrin were on the Moon, Collins stayed behind in the Command Module. Read page 36. How do you think Collins felt while he was on the far side of the Moon? Why do you think this?

Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.4.1

6 Read page 40 about when the astronauts re-entered the Earth's atmosphere. What extra information does the text in the green box give about the heat shield? Do you think this box is a helpful addition to the main text?

Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.3.5

7 The first three paragraphs on page 42 describe the astronauts landing back on Earth. How are the paragraphs connected? What does each paragraph describe?

Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.3.8

8 On page 42, what effect does the word "Crack!" have when you read it? Can you find another example of this type of word on the same page? Think of a "sound" word you could use to describe a firework.

Common Core State Standards (Reading: Informational text): RI.3.8

Answers

- 1** How to pronounce the word “tranquility”; into syllables; this syllable is emphasized when spoken.
Answers will vary. Example answer: (AS-tro-not)
- 2** The Moon was not flat, so they could not see a smooth place to land; the computer was going to make them crash; Armstrong took control and landed the craft himself.
- 3** To show the names of different parts of the spacesuit; Answers will vary.
- 4** Gravity; there is less gravity on the Moon.
- 5** Collins felt scared / nervous / alone, as he was on his own and completely out of contact with everyone on Earth and the other two astronauts.
- 6** It explains why a heat shield is needed and how the shield works; Answers will vary.
- 7** The paragraphs are in chronological / time order; each paragraph describes a different step in the sequence of the landing.
- 8** Whoosh!; Answers will vary. Example answers: bang, whizz, boom (The technical term for these words is onomatopoeia.)