



Neil Armstrong

Neil Armstrong is a significant person because he was the first person to walk on the moon. He was an American aerospace engineer, naval aviator, test pilot and university professor.

What was his early life?

Born in 1930, in the state of Ohio in the United States of America, Neil Armstrong worked hard to achieve his dream. He was only 15 years old when he received his pilot license and by the time he had left university, he had flown over 200 different aircrafts! In September 1962, he was accepted to NASA's **astronaut** corps, where he knew he might one day go in to space.



Neil Armstrong as a pilot before joining NASA.



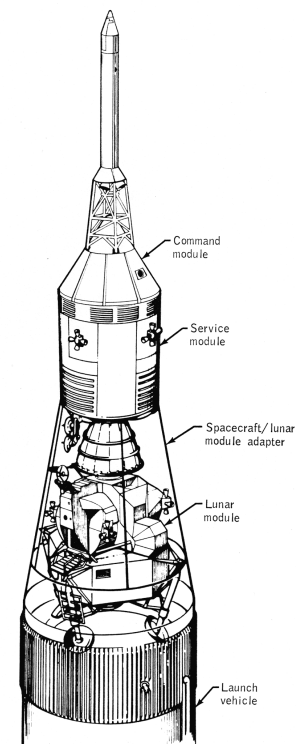
Neil Armstrong on the moon, 1969.

What were his famous words?

Neil Armstrong died on 25th August 2012 but he will always be remembered for his famous words. As he stepped off his spacecraft, Apollo 11, on to the moon's surface, he was heard to say, "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind."

When did he walk on the moon?

His first trip into space was aboard spacecraft Gemini 8 but it was in 1968 that he was offered the chance to command the space mission Apollo 11. This would be the first **manned** landing on the moon. After months of practice and preparation, the Apollo 11 spacecraft launched from the Kennedy Space Centre in Florida on 16th July 1969. Neil Armstrong with Buzz Aldrin, landed safely on the moon. He became the first man to walk it's surface on 21st July 1969.



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