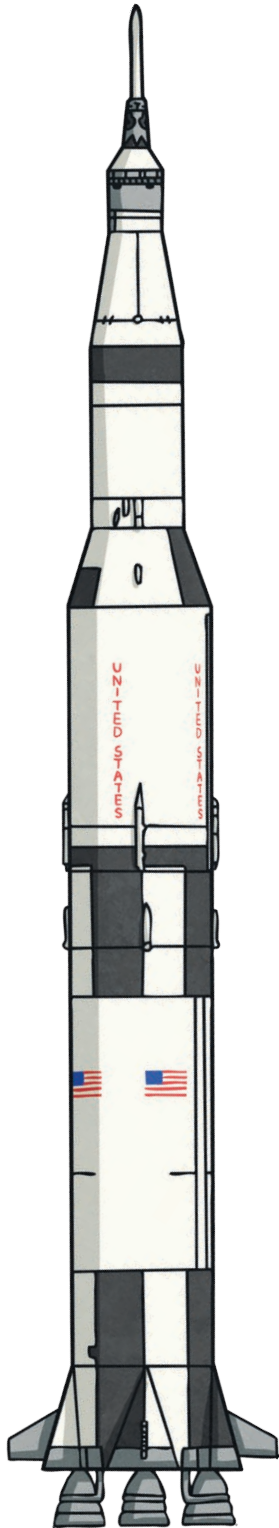


Buzz Aldrin



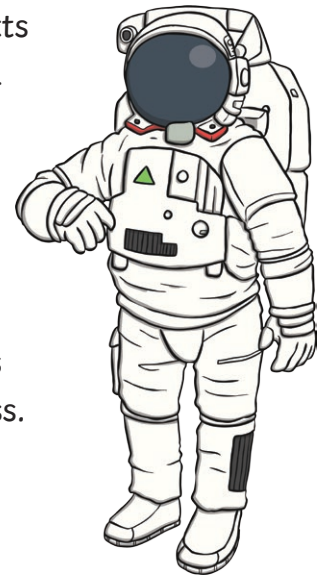
Born in New Jersey on 20th January 1930, Buzz Aldrin followed in his father's footsteps in a military career before being selected by NASA to work on the Apollo missions. In 1966, he performed the first successful spacewalk and three years later, on 20th July 1969, he became one of the first two humans to set foot on the Moon.



Photo by NASA

Early Life

Aldrin's father was an air travel pioneer who inspired his son's future career with the US Air Force (USAF). As a child, his sister struggled to say 'brother', pronouncing it as 'buzzer' which was soon shortened to Buzz and became his childhood nickname. Buzz was a Boy Scout and was so successful at school that he graduated from high school a year early. Although he was offered a full scholarship from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), he turned it down in favour of the US Military Academy. Here he studied Mechanical Engineering and graduated third in his class. From there, he joined the air force and worked as a fighter pilot in the Korean War for which he was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross.



Did You Know?

Buzz Aldrin's mother's maiden name was Moon!

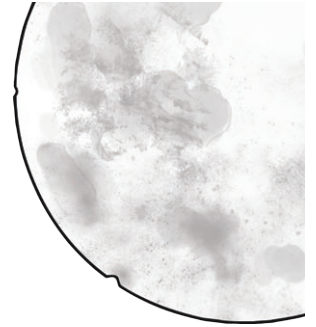
Did You Know?

In 1988, Buzz Aldrin finally changed his name legally.

Buzz Aldrin

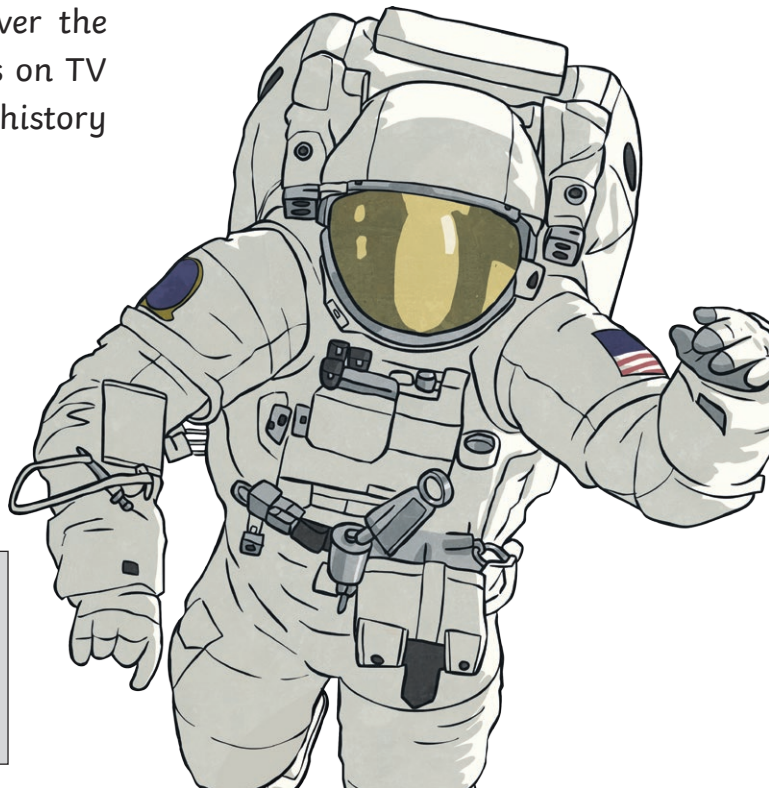
NASA

After his time flying in Korea, Aldrin studied for a doctorate in astronautics at MIT and wrote about methods for spacecraft to come close enough to see each other or even 'dock' in order to hand over supplies or crew members. The methods he wrote about are still used for docking in space today. In 1963, he was selected by NASA to be an astronaut and began his training. In 1966, he was the pilot for the Gemini 12 mission during which he completed the world's first successful spacewalk and set a record of 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours spent on spacewalks. He also took a famous 'selfie' which showed the Earth reflected in the visor of his spacesuit. In 1969, alongside Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin stepped out of the Apollo 11 space shuttle onto the surface of the Moon. Around 600 million people all over the world watched the Moon landings on TV – the largest television audience in history at the time.



Life after NASA

Aldrin retired from NASA but continued to work as a manager for USAF. He has written 9 books including two autobiographies and a children's book about Mars. He continues to support space exploration and encourage science and technology education for children and spark their curiosity in space travel.



Did You Know?

Buzz Aldrin has recorded his own voice for two episodes of The Simpsons in which he features!

Questions

1. Where and when was Buzz Aldrin born?

2. What did Buzz Aldrin do in July 1969?

The first successful spacewalk

Pilot Apollo 11

Walk on the Moon

Join NASA

3. How did Buzz Aldrin become known as Buzz?

4. Where did Buzz Aldrin complete his mechanical engineering degree?

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

New Jersey

Korea

US Military Academy

5. What record did he set in 1966?

Questions

Buzz Aldrin

6. How many people watched the Moon landings on television?

600 million

60 million

600 billion

6 million

7. Which of these has he done since he retired from NASA?

Written 2 books and designed a space shuttle

Written 9 books and worked as a manager for USAF

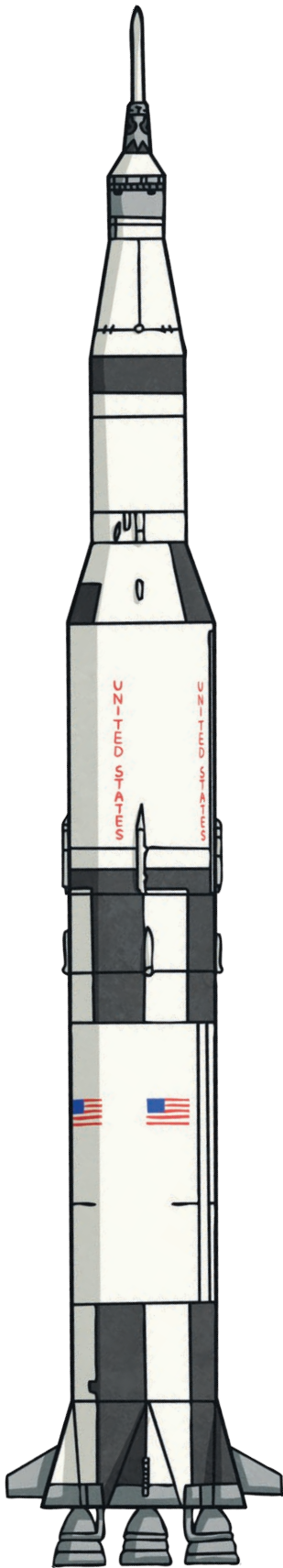
Starred in 9 films and written a children's book

Designed a space shuttle and travelled to Mars

8. Which TV programme has Aldrin provided voice-over for?

1. Where and when was Buzz Aldrin born?
20th January 1930, New Jersey.
2. What did Buzz Aldrin do in July 1969?
He was one of the first two humans to walk on the Moon.
3. How did Buzz Aldrin become known as Buzz?
His sister mispronounced brother as buzzer and Buzz became his nickname.
4. Where did Buzz Aldrin complete his mechanical engineering degree?
US Military Academy.
5. What record did he set in 1966?
The first successful spacewalk, 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours in total.
6. How many people watched the Moon landings on television?
600 million.
7. Which of these has he done since he retired from NASA?
Written 9 books and worked as a manager for USAF.
8. Which TV programme has Aldrin provided voice-over for?
The Simpsons.

Buzz Aldrin



Born in New Jersey on 20th January 1930, Edwin Eugene Aldrin Jr followed in his father's footsteps in a military career before being selected by NASA to work as an astronaut on the Apollo missions. In 1966, he performed the first successful extravehicular activity (spacewalk) and three years later, on 20th July 1969, he became one of the first two humans to set foot on the Moon.

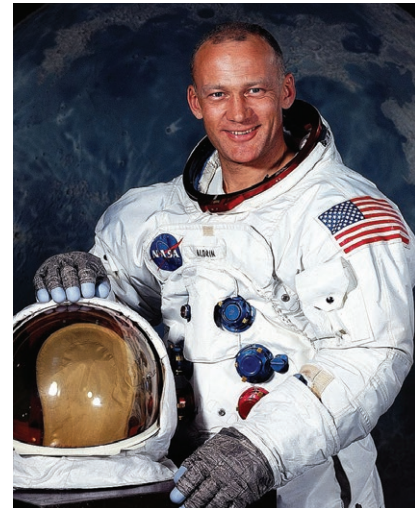


Photo by NASA

Early Life

As a child, his sister struggled to say 'brother', pronouncing it as 'buzzer' which was soon shortened to Buzz and became his childhood nickname. Buzz was a Boy Scout and was so successful at school that he graduated from high school a year early. Aldrin's father was a military man and aviation pioneer who inspired his son's future career with the US Air Force (USAF). Although he was offered a full scholarship from the world renowned Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in Boston, he instead chose to take up studies in Mechanical Engineering at the US Military Academy at West Point. His academic success continued at university and he graduated third in his class in 1951. Immediately commissioned to the air force, he became a fighter pilot during the Korean War, flying 66 combat missions and shooting down enemy aircraft. His achievements in combat earned him the Distinguished Flying Cross for "heroism or extraordinary achievement while participating in an aerial flight". Following the war, he worked as an aerial gunnery instructor and as a flight commander at Bitburg Air Base in Germany.

Did You Know?

At the age of 58, after a lifetime known as Buzz, Aldrin finally changed his name legally.

Buzz Aldrin

NASA

In 1959, he began postgraduate studies at MIT earning a doctorate in astronautics in 1963. His thesis focused on methods for spacecraft to come close enough to see each other or even 'dock' in order to hand over supplies or crew members (methods which are still used for docking in space today). It even included a dedication to astronauts and his wish to 'join them in their exciting endeavours'. At that time, experience as a test pilot was essential for astronauts and since Aldrin didn't have that experience, he was ineligible. In 1963, after the test pilot requirement had been dropped, he was selected by NASA to join the third group of astronauts and began his training. In 1966, he was the pilot for the Gemini 12 mission during which he completed the world's first successful spacewalk and set a record of 5 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours spent on spacewalks. He also took a famous 'selfie' which showed the Earth reflected in the visor of his spacesuit. In 1969, alongside Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin stepped out of the Apollo 11 space shuttle onto the surface of the Moon. Around 600 million people around the world watched the Moon landings on TV – the largest television audience in history at the time.

Did You Know?

Perhaps Buzz Aldrin was always meant to walk on the Moon since his mother's maiden name was Moon!

Life after NASA

Aldrin retired from NASA but continued to work as a manager for USAF. He has written 9 books including two autobiographies and a children's book about Mars. He continues to support space exploration and encourage science and technology education for children and spark their curiosity in space travel, calling himself a Global Statesman for Space.



Did You Know?

Buzz Aldrin has played himself several times on television and film including as a voice-over for two episodes of the Simpsons, on the Big Bang Theory and in Transformers: Dark of the Moon.

Questions

Buzz Aldrin

1. What did Buzz Aldrin do before joining NASA?

2. How did Aldrin become known as Buzz?

3. Where did Buzz Aldrin complete his mechanical engineering degree?

Massachusetts Institute of Technology

New Jersey

Bitburg Air Base

US Military Academy

4. What earned Buzz Aldrin the Distinguished Flying Cross?

5. What did Buzz Aldrin do at the age of 58?

6. When was Buzz Aldrin selected by NASA to become an astronaut?

1963

1966

1959

1969

Questions

Buzz Aldrin

7. True or false? If a statement is false, write the correct statement.

✓ True ✓ False

Buzz Aldrin worked as a test pilot before joining NASA. True False

Buzz Aldrin was in the third group of NASA astronauts. True False

His thesis was about space shuttle design. True False

In 1966 he set a record of 3 hours on a spacewalk. True False

He took a famous 'selfie' on his first spacewalk. True False

Corrected statements:

8. What was noteworthy about Buzz Aldrin's mother's maiden name?

9. What does Buzz Aldrin call himself?

The Man on the Moon

Global Statesman for Space

President of Space

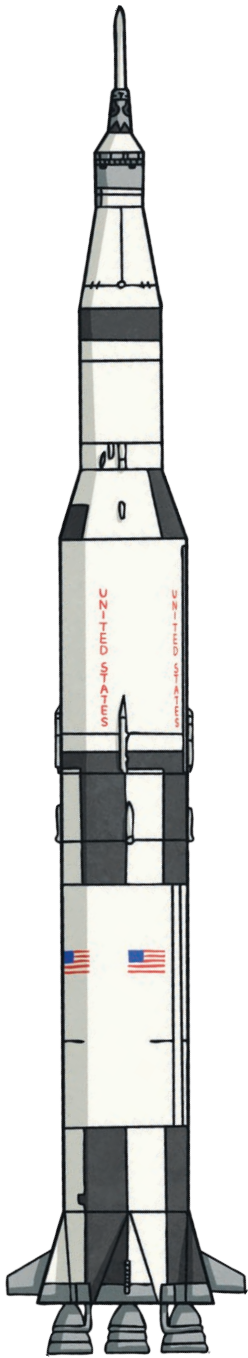
Shared Space Statesman

10. Name two TV programmes or films Buzz Aldrin has featured in.

1. What did Buzz Aldrin do before joining NASA?
Followed in his father's footsteps in a military career.
2. How did Aldrin become known as Buzz?
His sister mispronounced brother as buzzer and Buzz became his nickname.
3. Where did Buzz Aldrin complete his mechanical engineering degree?
US Military Academy.
4. What earned Buzz Aldrin the Distinguished Flying Cross?
His achievements in combat in the Korean war including flying 66 combat missions and shooting down enemy aircraft.
5. What did Buzz Aldrin do at the age of 58?
He changed his name to Buzz legally.
6. When was Buzz Aldrin selected by NASA to become an astronaut?
1963
7. Link the statements to 'true' or 'false'. If a statement is false, write the correct statement.
True:
Buzz Aldrin was in the third group of NASA astronauts. He took a famous 'selfie' on his first spacewalk.

Corrected statements:
Buzz Aldrin worked as a fighter pilot before joining NASA, His thesis was about methods for space shuttles to 'dock'. In 1966 he set a record of 5 1/2 hours on spacewalks.
8. What was noteworthy about Buzz Aldrin's mother's maiden name?
It was Moon which was appropriate seeing as her son would later walk on the Moon.
9. What does Buzz Aldrin call himself?
Global Statesman for Space
10. Name two TV programmes or films Buzz Aldrin has featured in.
Any two of: The Simpsons, The Big Bang Theory, Transformers.

Buzz Aldrin



Did You Know?

At the age of 58, after a lifetime known as Buzz, Aldrin finally changed his name legally in 1988.

Born in New Jersey on 20th January 1930, the second man on the Moon, Edwin Eugene Aldrin Jr's route to space exploration began with watching his father's military career. The young Buzz followed suit with a career in the US Air Force (USAF) before being selected by NASA to work as an astronaut on the Apollo missions. In 1966, he was the first man to successfully perform an extravehicular activity (spacewalk) and three years later, on 20th July 1969, he became one of the first two humans to set foot on the Moon.



Photo by NASA

Have you ever wondered why he is called Buzz? As a child, his sister struggled to say 'brother', pronouncing it as 'buzzer' which was soon shortened to Buzz and became his childhood nickname.

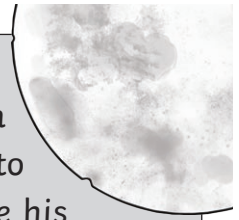
Aldrin's father was a military man and aviation pioneer who inspired his son's future career with USAF. He was only two when he first flew with his father! Buzz was a Boy Scout and was so successful at school that he graduated from high school a year early. Despite being offered a full scholarship to study at the prestigious Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in Boston, he instead opted to take up studies in mechanical engineering at the US Military Academy at West Point. At university his academic success continued and he graduated third in his class in 1951. Immediately commissioned to the air force, he became a jet fighter pilot during the Korean War. His achievements in combat, including 66 combat missions and shooting down enemy aircraft, earned him the Distinguished Flying Cross for "heroism or extraordinary achievement while participating in an aerial flight". Following the war, he worked as an aerial gunnery instructor and as a flight commander at Bitburg Air Base in Germany having completed training at the Squadron Officer School at Maxwell Air Force Base in Alabama.

Buzz Aldrin

In 1959, supported by the Air Force Institute for Technology, he began postgraduate studies at MIT, earning a doctorate in astronautics in January 1963. His thesis focused on methods for spacecraft to come close enough to see each other or even 'dock' in order to hand over supplies or crew members. It even included a dedication to astronauts and his wish to 'join them in their exciting endeavours'. At that time, experience as a test pilot was essential for astronauts and since Aldrin didn't have that experience, he was ineligible to join. However, later that same year, the test pilot requirement was dropped and he was selected by NASA to join the third group of astronauts. His training began with the Gemini missions, putting into action some methods of docking in his doctoral thesis (these methods are still used for docking in space today). In 1966, he was the pilot for the Gemini 12 mission during which he completed the world's first successful spacewalk and set a record of 5½ hours spent on spacewalks, showing that it was possible for pilots to work outside of their spacecraft. He also took a famous 'selfie' which shows the Earth reflected in the visor of his spacesuit. In 1969, alongside Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin stepped out of the Apollo 11 space shuttle onto the surface of the Moon. The Moon landings were watched on television by an estimated 600 million people worldwide - the largest television audience in history at the time.

Did You Know?

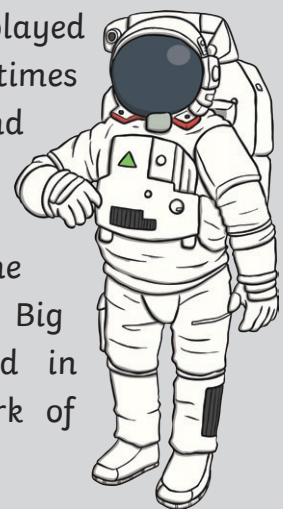
Perhaps Buzz Aldrin was always meant to walk on the Moon since his mother's maiden name was Moon!



Aldrin retired from NASA in 1971 but continued to work as a manager for USAF. In 1985, he went to work at the University of North Dakota's College of Aerospace Sciences to develop their Space Studies Programme. He has written 9 books including two autobiographies which describe his battles with depression following his time at NASA and a children's book about Mars. He continues to promote space exploration and encourage STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Maths) education for children and spark their curiosity in space travel, calling himself a Global Statesman for Space.

Did You Know?

Buzz Aldrin has played himself several times on television and film including as a voice-over for two episodes of the Simpsons, on the Big Bang Theory and in Transformers: Dark of the Moon.



Questions

Buzz Aldrin

1. What were Buzz Aldrin's two major achievements during his time at NASA?

1. _____

2. _____

2. What does this phrase tell you about spacewalk before 1966?

"...he was the first man to successfully perform an extravehicular activity ..."

3. Why is it significant that Aldrin turned down a scholarship from MIT?

4. What earned Buzz Aldrin the Distinguished Flying Cross?

5. What did Buzz Aldrin do in 1988?

Complete his doctorate in Astronautics.....

Change his name legally.....

Retire from NASA.....

Complete training at the Squadron Officer School.....

Questions

6. Tick the correct box related to each statement in the table:
- | | ✓
True | ✓
False |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Aldrin dedicated his thesis to astronauts. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Aldrin was a successful test pilot with USAF. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Aldrin took a famous selfie on the Moon. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Aldrin's father was an aviation pioneer. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Aldrin was the first man on the Moon. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

For those statements which are false, write the correct statement below:

7. How many people watched the Moon landings on television and what record did this set?

8. What was noteworthy about Buzz Aldrin's mother's maiden name?

Questions

Buzz Aldrin

9. What word in the text is a synonym for “support”?

Promote

Develop

Describe

Curiosity

10. Name three things Buzz Aldrin has done since retiring from NASA.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

Answers

Buzz Aldrin

1. What were Buzz Aldrin's two major achievements during his time at NASA?
Completing the first successful spacewalk and being one of the first two people to walk on the Moon.
2. What does this phrase tell you about spacewalk before 1966?
Other people had attempted a spacewalk before but had failed.
3. Why is it significant that Aldrin turned down a scholarship from MIT?
Because MIT is a very highly regarded and prestigious university.
4. What earned Buzz Aldrin the Distinguished Flying Cross?
His achievements in combat in the Korean war including flying 66 combat missions and shooting down enemy aircraft.
5. What did Buzz Aldrin do in 1988?
Change his name legally.
6. Tick the correct box related to each statement in the table:

	✓ True	✓ False
Aldrin dedicated his thesis to astronauts.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aldrin was a successful test pilot with USAF.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Aldrin took a famous selfie on the Moon.....	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Aldrin's father was an aviation pioneer.....	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Aldrin was the first man on the Moon.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Corrected statements: **Aldrin was a successful jet pilot with USAF, Aldrin took a famous selfie on a spacewalk, Aldrin was the second man on the Moon.**
7. How many people watched the Moon landings on television and what record did this set?
Around 600 million and this was the largest television audience in history at the time.
8. What was noteworthy about Buzz Aldrin's mother's maiden name?
It was Moon which was appropriate seeing as her son would later walk on the Moon.
9. What word in the text is a synonym for "support"?
Promote.
10. Name three things Buzz Aldrin has done since retiring from NASA.
Any three of: working at the University of North Dakota's College of Aerospace Sciences, written 9 books, promote space exploration and STEAM education, appeared on television programmes and a film.