

Space Explorers

Key Facts

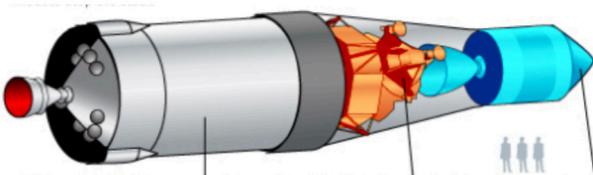
The Moon Landings

- On 16 July 1969, the American **Apollo 11** space mission was launched from the Kennedy Space Centre.
- On board were three astronauts: **Neil Armstrong**, **Michael Collins** and **Edwin 'Buzz' Aldrin**.
- Four days later, on 20 July 1969, the eagle lander touched down on the Moon's surface in an area known as the **Sea of Tranquillity**.
- Neil Armstrong was the first to leave the lander and set foot on the moon. This historic moment was marked by Neil Armstrong's memorable speech: **'One small step for man, one giant leap for mankind.'**
- The moment was broadcast live on TV and watched by approximately 600 million people around the world.
- Armstrong was joined on the moon by Buzz Aldrin. Together they spent two and half hours exploring and performing experiments, as well as collecting rock samples and soil to bring back to Earth.
- They returned to Earth as heroes on 24 July, 1969.

Key Vocabulary

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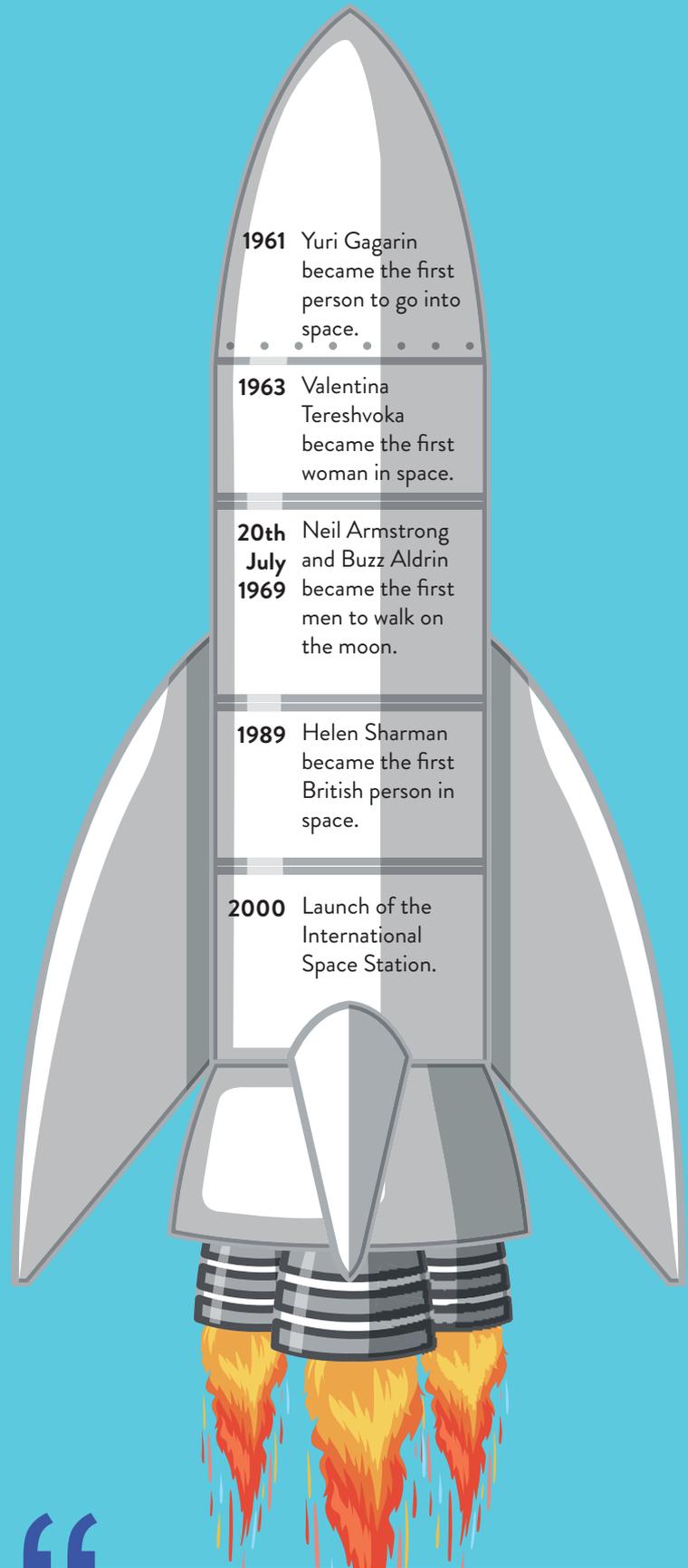
- **Apollo 11:** The name of the mission to send people to the moon.
- **NASA:** The American space exploration organisation. Stands for the **National Aeronautic and Space Agency**.
- **Lunar Module "The Eagle":** The part of the spacecraft which landed the astronauts on the moon.
- **Command Module "Columbia":** The spacecraft which orbited the moon and the astronauts back to earth.
- **Space Race:** The race between the USA and USSR (now Russia) to land the first person on the moon.
- **Sea of Tranquillity:** The area of the moon where the Eagle landed



Saturn V Third Stage
The rocket which sent the astronauts into space.

Lunar Module "Eagle"
Carried the astronauts from the command module to the moon surface.

Command Module "Columbia"
Carried the three astronauts around the moon.



1961 Yuri Gagarin became the first person to go into space.

1963 Valentina Tereshvoka became the first woman in space.

20th July 1969 Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin became the first men to walk on the moon.

1989 Helen Sharman became the first British person in space.

2000 Launch of the International Space Station.

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We choose to go to the moon in this decade and do the other things. Not because they are easy, but because they are hard.

United States President John F. Kennedy, 1962

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