LESSON PLAN

13 FOLLOWING THE ASTRONAUTS

OVERVIEW

This lesson is designed to introduce students to the Apollo missions and set the scene for the Lunar samples by investigating the landing sites where some of the samples in the Lunar disk came from.

Students will use Google Earth to explore the Apollo 15 landing site, finding out information about the samples collected at the site, flying into panoramic images, and using the ruler tool to measure the distance the astronauts covered while exploring the surface, and work out how long it took them to make this journey.

CURRICULUM LINKS

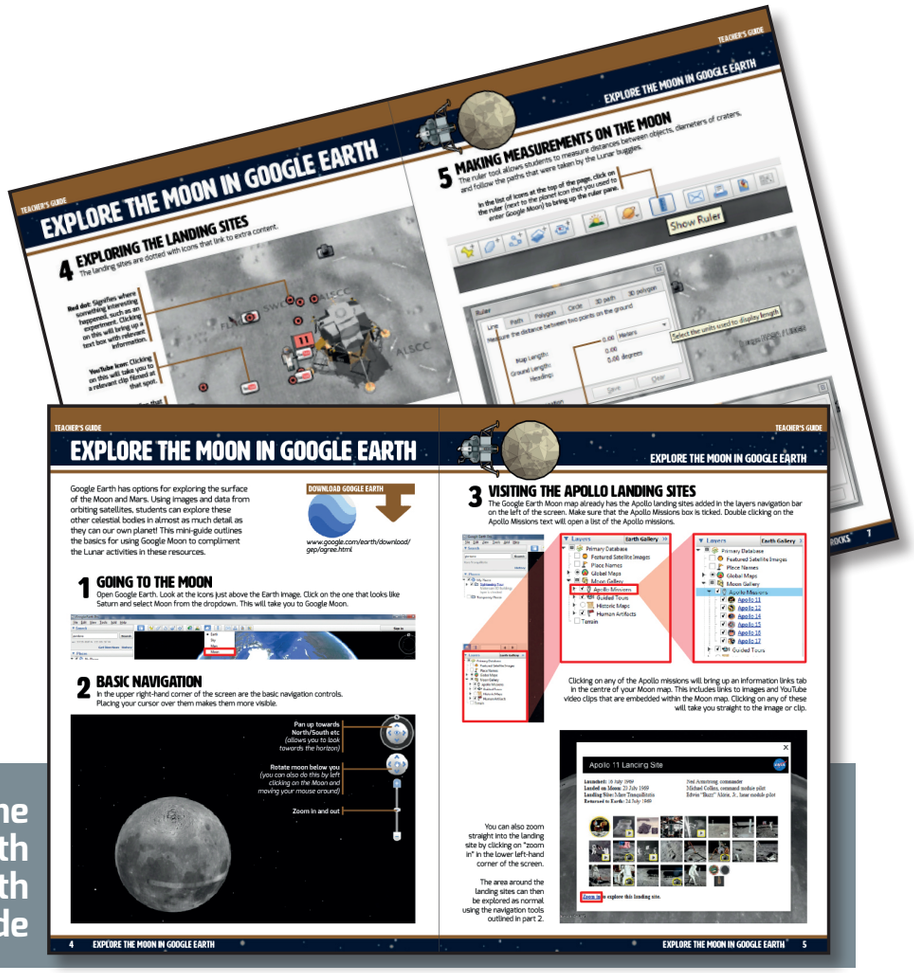
Speed, distance, and time.

Calculating time given a speed and distance.

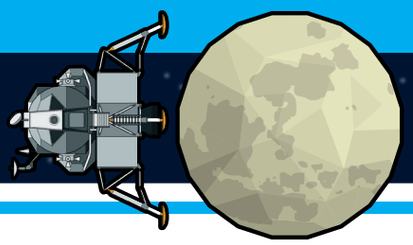
Making measurements.

WHAT YOU NEED

- **Laptop with Google Earth installed** (one per group)
- **A13 PowerPoint**
- **13.1 Following the astronauts worksheet**
- **Explore the Moon with Google Earth guide**



Explore the Moon with Google Earth guide



15 MINS

STARTER

Run through the Apollo introduction slides on the PowerPoint to set the scene and show where the Moon samples in the box came from.

Demonstrate to the students the basics of navigating around the Moon in Google Earth (you will want to practice this prior to the lesson).

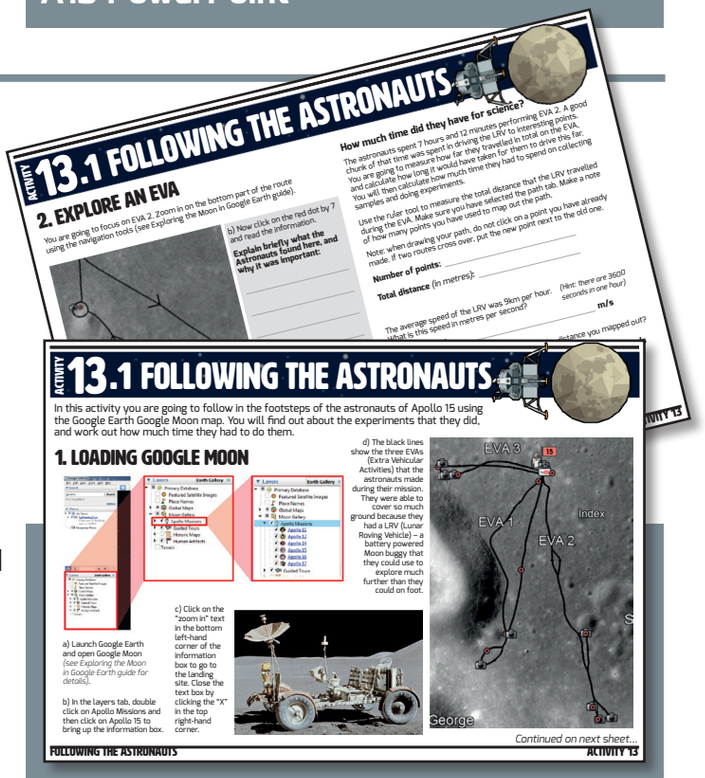
A13 PowerPoint

35 MINS

MAIN ACTIVITY

Students follow the instructions on their sheets to explore the Apollo 15 landing site and find out information about the samples collected.

They then use the ruler tool to follow the path that the astronauts took and use this information and the average speed of the Lunar Roving Vehicle to calculate how long it took, and how much time the astronauts had to collect their samples as a result.



13.1 Following the astronauts

10 MINS

PLENARY

Get the students to seek out other interesting features on the Moon and ask some of them to come up and show the class what they have found. You could use this as a prompt point for a research homework.