



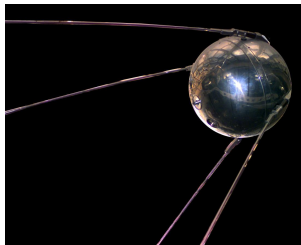
UKS2 History Knowledge Organiser

Worlds of Wonder

Key Knowledge and Skills

Sputnik 1 Spacecraft

The Sputnik 1 spacecraft was the first artificial satellite successfully placed in orbit around the Earth and was launched from Baikonur Cosmodrome at Tyuratam in Kazakhstan, then part of the former Soviet Union. The Russian word "Sputnik" means "companion". The Sputnik 1 satellite was a 58 cm-diameter aluminium sphere that carried four whip-like antennas that were 2.4-2.9 m long. The antennas looked like long "whiskers" pointing to one side. The spacecraft found out information about the density of the upper layers of the atmosphere.



Yuri Gagarin



Yuri Gagarin from the Soviet Union was the first human in space. His vehicle, Vostok 1 circled Earth at a speed of 27,400 kilometres per hour with the flight lasting 108 minutes. Unlike the early U.S. human spaceflight programs, Gagarin did not land inside of the capsule. Instead, he ejected from the spacecraft and landed by parachute.

Animals Through Space

Animals were the first living creatures sent into space, before humans headed up there. A monkey sent into space by Iran, in the Middle East, is the latest animal to make the journey there and back.

Fruit Flies

Fruit flies were the first creatures that made the journey into space in 1947. Scientists in America wanted to find out more about the possible effects of radiation on them.



Monkeys

In the earlier days of space exploration, nobody knew if people could survive a trip away from Earth and make the return journey safely. In 1948, America sent the first of a series of monkeys, all named Albert, into space. Most of the monkeys didn't survive the complete journey.

Dogs

While in America scientists were sending monkeys into space, in Russia they were using dogs. One of the best known is Laika who travelled into space on board the spacecraft Sputnik 2 in 1957.



Chimpanzees

In 1961, Ham became the first chimpanzee in space and successfully returned to Earth. Scientists found that Ham was slightly tired and dehydrated after the flight, but in good shape. Ham's mission paved the way for the successful launch of America's first human astronaut.

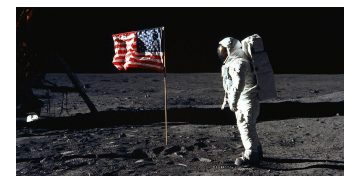
Cats

In 1963, French scientists launched the first cat into space. The cat, named Felix, was successfully retrieved after a parachute landing back on Earth.

Key Vocabulary

Word	Definition
Satellites	An artificial body placed in orbit around the earth, moon or another planet in order to collect information.
Spacecraft	A vehicle used for travelling in space.
NASA	NASA stands for National Aeronautics and Space Administration. It is a United States government agency that is responsible for science and technology.
Orbit	The curved path of a celestial object or spacecraft round a star, planet, or moon.
Transmit	Cause something to pass on from one person or place to another.
Ethics	A system of accepted beliefs that control behaviour.
Astronaut	A person who is trained to travel in a spacecraft.
Cosmonaut	A Russian astronaut.
ISS	The ISS stands for The International Space Station and is a large spacecraft in orbit around Earth.

Our Enquiry Question



Who made one small step for man and a giant leap for mankind?

