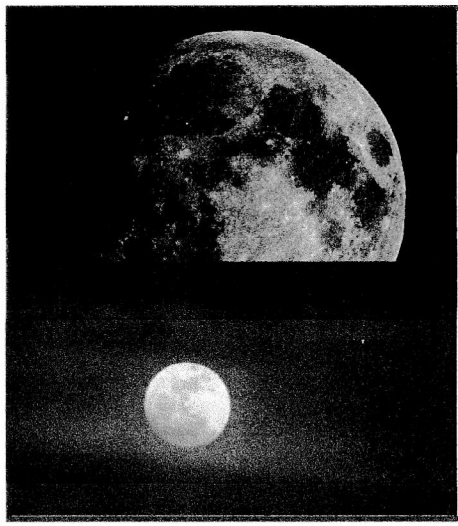
The Moon



Moon Facts

- Day temperature: 107°C
- Night temperature: -153°C
- Distance from Earth: 238 857 miles (384 403km)
- Diameter (from one side to the other): 2160 miles (3476km)
- Length of Day: 708 hours

What Is It Like on The Moon?

The Moon is very hot during the day but very cold at night. The surface of the Moon features a huge number of craters (large holes) that have been created after being hit by comets and asteroids. The Moon has many mountains. The tallest is Mons Huygens which is 4700 metres tall; half the height of Mount Everest.

The Moon does not have an atmosphere like Earth does and therefore it is not possible to breathe on the moon without a special suit and tanks containing oxygen. The moon is also a very dry place and was thought to be completely without water. However, about a decade ago, traces of water were discovered. Some people now believe that humans may one day be able to live on the Moon.

Only 12 people have ever walked on the Moon. The first person was Neil Armstrong on 20th July 1969. When he first walked on the Moon, he famously said, 'That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind'. There were two other men on the mission: Edwin 'Buzz' Aldrin and Michael Collins. They were part of a mission to the moon called Apollo 11. It took them just over three days to get there from Earth.

You may have seen a film of people walking on the Moon and they bounce along. This is because the Moon's gravity is not as strong as the Earth's so people take longer to come back down when they go up in the air.