



STEP INTO READING®

A HISTORY READER

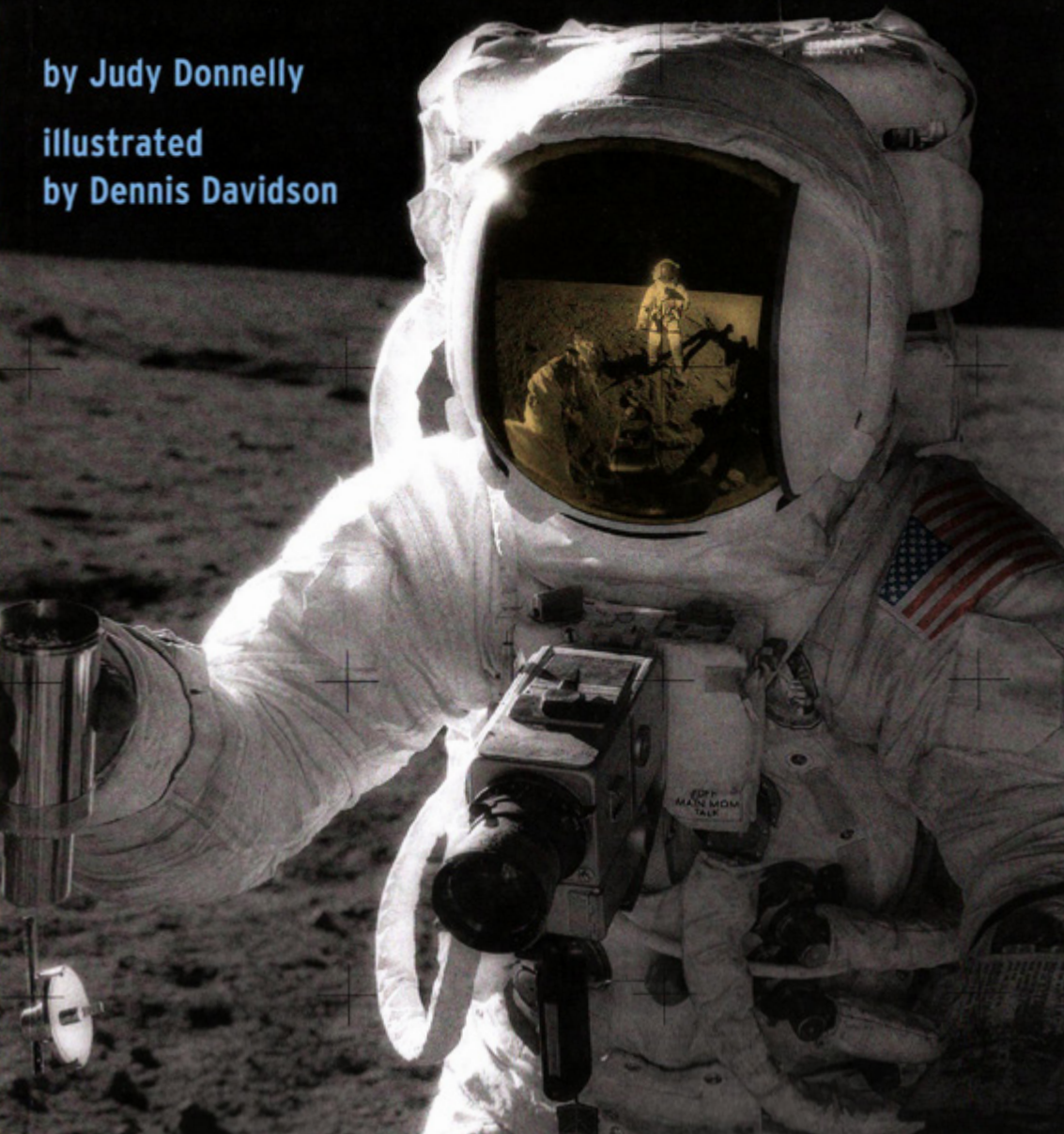
MOONWALK

THE FIRST TRIP TO THE MOON

by Judy Donnelly

illustrated

by Dennis Davidson



Dear Parents,

Welcome to the fascinating world of non-fiction! Here you will find natural science, biography, history, sports . . . and more.

STEP INTO READING® NON-FICTION READERS include a huge selection of high-interest topics to engage young readers. No child can resist finding out about such topics as:

- Animals, both fuzzy and fierce
- Brave, bold, and brainy people
- Wild weather, such as twisters
- Life in the time of ice mummies or the Age of Dinosaurs
- Supersized trucks that leap into the air

Why should children read non-fiction? The benefits are enormous. First, children build their vocabularies, encountering words that may not come up in ordinary conversation but are needed to increase reading comprehension.

Second, non-fiction introduces children to a writing style that supports learning. When explaining new concepts, non-fiction writers often compare one thing with another. Comparisons make learning easy and fun.

Third, children build their store of background information. Context helps readers make important content connections, whether they are reading about history, biography, or natural science.

Last but not least, non-fiction books raise questions and motivate children to find answers.

The Common Core State Standards call on us to prepare children for college and careers by teaching them to read, write, and discuss non-fiction. **STEP INTO READING® NON-FICTION READERS** can help children meet this goal while enjoying informative, age-appropriate books.

Happy reading!



Myra Zarnowski
Professor, Elementary and Early Childhood Education
Queens College, City University of New York

Look for an **F&P Text Level** on the back of every book.



Learning to Read, Step by Step!



Ready to Read **Preschool–Kindergarten**

• big type and easy words • rhyme and rhythm • picture clues

For children who know the alphabet and are eager to begin reading.



Reading with Help **Preschool–Grade 1**

• basic vocabulary • short sentences • simple stories

For children who recognize familiar words and sound out new words with help.



Reading on Your Own **Grades 1–3**

• engaging characters • easy-to-follow plots • popular topics

For children who are ready to read on their own.



Reading Paragraphs **Grades 2–3**

• challenging vocabulary • short paragraphs • exciting stories

For newly independent readers who read simple sentences with confidence.



Ready for Chapters **Grades 2–4**

• chapters • longer paragraphs • full-color art

For children who want to take the plunge into chapter books but still like colorful pictures.

STEP INTO READING® is designed to give every child a successful reading experience. The grade levels are only guides; children will progress through the steps at their own speed, developing confidence in their reading. The F&P Text Level on the back cover serves as another tool to help you choose the right book for your child.

Remember, a lifetime love of reading starts with a single step!



For Amy and Sarah
—J.D.

For Hiroshi Miyazaki
—D.D.

Photograph credits: cover, from the book *Full Moon*, published by Alfred A. Knopf, a division of Random House, LLC, © 1999 Michael Light; pp. 7, 25, 31, 43, courtesy of NASA; p. 19, White House Photo Collection, John F. Kennedy Library.

Text copyright © 1989 by Judy Donnelly. Interior illustrations copyright © 1989 by Dennis Davidson.

All rights reserved. Published in the United States by Random House Children's Books, a division of Random House LLC, a Penguin Random House Company, New York.

Step into Reading, Random House, and the Random House colophon are registered trademarks of Random House LLC.

Visit us on the Web!
StepIntoReading.com
randomhouse.com/kids

Educators and librarians, for a variety of teaching tools, visit us at
RHTeachersLibrarians.com

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data
Donnelly, Judy.

Moonwalk : the first trip to the moon / by Judy Donnelly ; illustrated by Dennis Davidson.

p. cm. — (Step into reading. A step 5 book)

Summary: Narrates the preparations and activities which culminated in man's first landing on the moon in July 1969.

ISBN 978-0-394-82457-4 (trade) — ISBN 978-0-375-97421-2 (lib. bdg.)

1. Space flight to the moon—Juvenile literature. 2. Project Apollo (U.S.)—Juvenile literature.

[1. Space flight to the moon. 2. Project Apollo (U.S.)]

I. Davidson, Dennis, ill. II. Title. III. Series: Step into reading. Step 5 book.

TL799.M6D66 2003 629.45'4—dc21 88023668

Printed in the United States of America 65 64 63 62

This book has been officially leveled by using the F&P Text Level Gradient™ Leveling System.

Random House Children's Books supports the First Amendment and celebrates the right to read.



STEP INTO READING®


A HISTORY READER

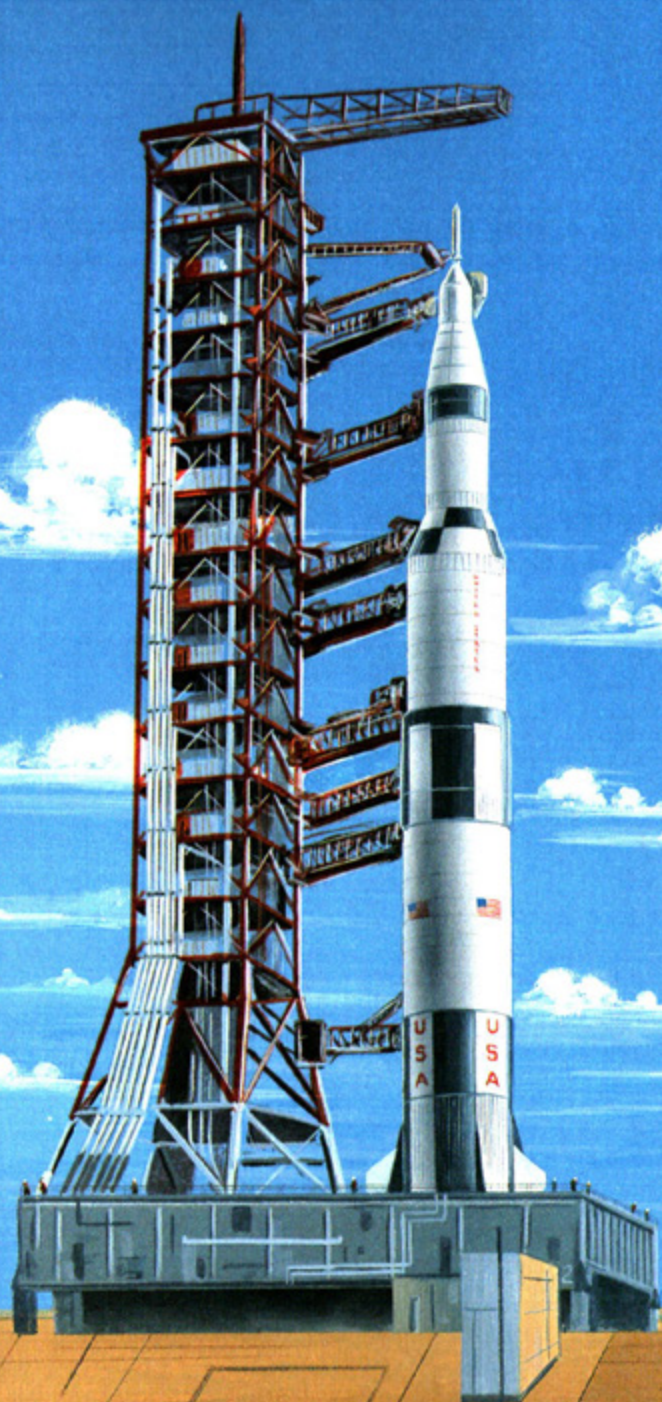
MOONWALK

The First Trip to the Moon

by Judy Donnelly

illustrated by Dennis Davidson

Random House  New York





1

Moon Launch

July 16, 1969. Cape Kennedy, Florida.

A huge white rocket towers against the blue sky. It is thirty-six stories high. It weighs over six million pounds. It is called the *Saturn V*. It is the biggest, most powerful rocket ever built.

Today it is going to make the dream of centuries come true. It will send three men where no human being has ever been before. To the moon!

A few miles away almost a million people crowd the highways and beaches. Small boats full of excited people dot the ocean. They have all come to see the launch. People

are not allowed any closer. The danger of an explosion is too great.

Around the planet millions more people are watching their television screens. Everyone wants to share in the longest, most incredible voyage in history.

As launch time approaches, three astronauts in gleaming white spacesuits walk toward the huge rocket. Their names are Neil Armstrong, Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin, and Michael Collins.

The men get into an elevator. They ride up to the top of the launch tower. There, at the very tip of the rocket, a spacecraft is waiting. It is called *Apollo 11*.

Soon the astronauts are inside the cramped spacecraft, strapped tightly to their seats. They are excited and tense.

For many months they have prepared for this journey. They know every inch of the spacecraft. Every detail of the flight plan. They are as ready as anyone can be to go



Apollo 11 astronauts Neil Armstrong, left, Michael Collins, center, and Edwin "Buzz" Aldrin, right. All three men are expert pilots, but each has been in space only once before.

into the unknown. Now their lives will depend on nine million bits of machinery working exactly right.

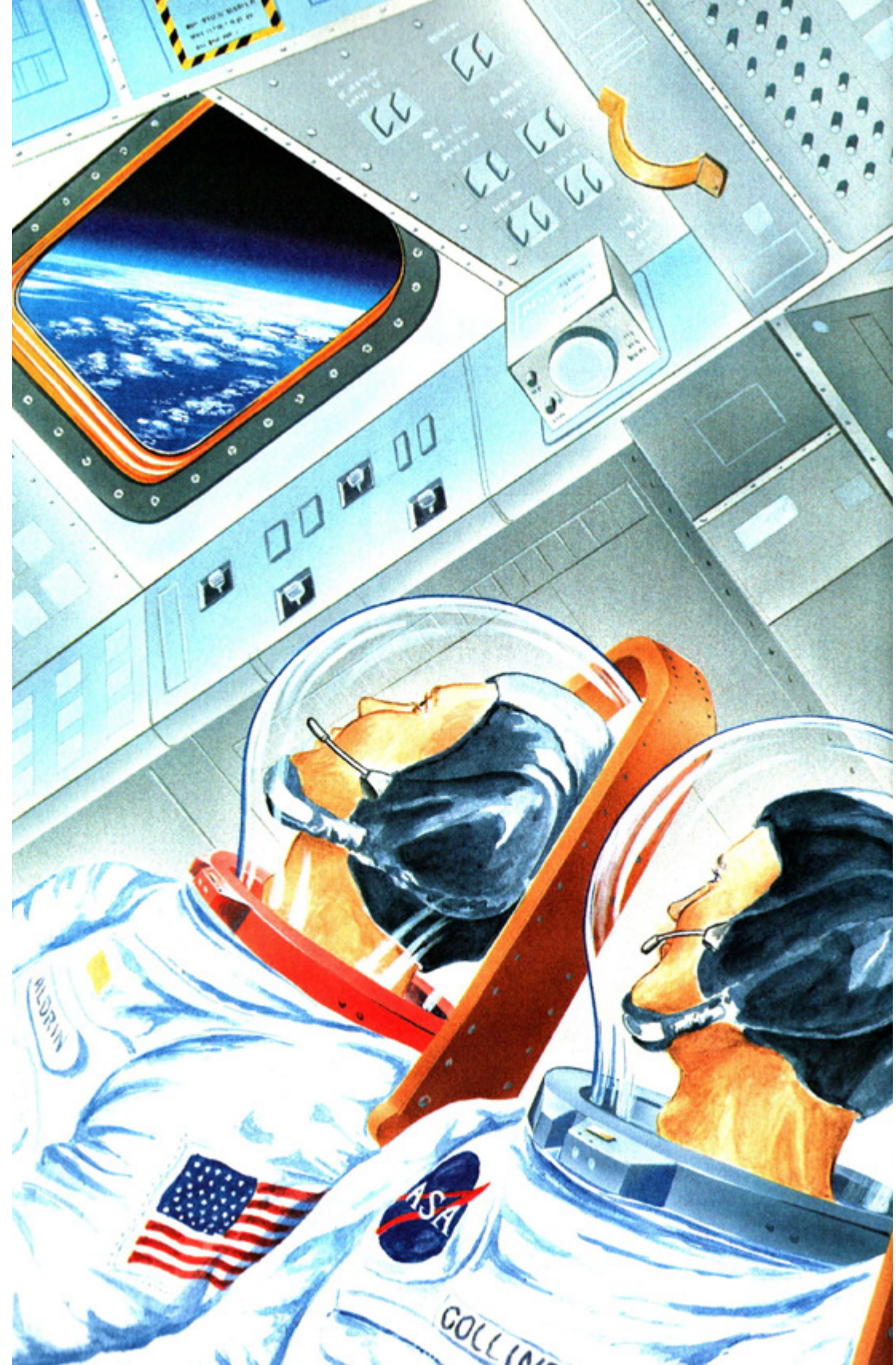
The astronauts wait quietly. Then over their radios they hear the voice of mission control wish them good luck and Godspeed. It is time. Time to shoot for the moon. The countdown begins: "10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, 0...liftoff!"

The rocket rises into the air with an ear-splitting roar. It climbs higher and higher, trailing smoke and fire.

Miles away people watch in awe. They are deafened by the noise. The ground shakes under them. The rocket looks like a streak of flame. Can anyone ride in it and survive?







Inside the *Apollo* the astronauts are shoved back into their seats. The spacecraft jerks and rattles and sways. The men never look away from their controls. So far, so good.

The first rocket stage drops away. Then the second. The ride gets rougher as the third stage takes over.

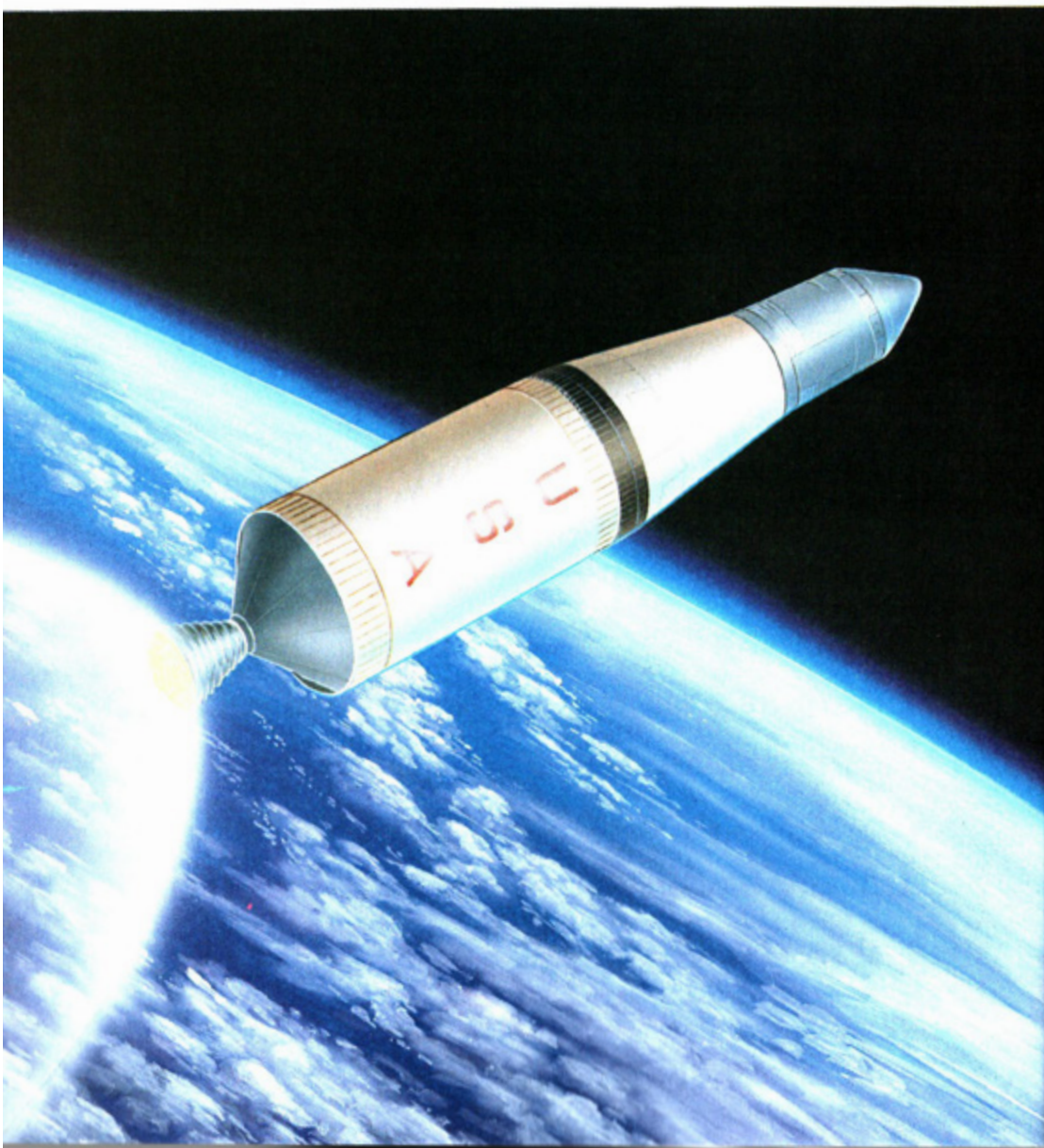
Less than twelve minutes have passed since the launch. But the *Apollo* is already more than one hundred miles away from Earth. Through their windows the astronauts can see a vast stretch of their planet—land, sea, and clouds.

The men are weightless now. They float about the cabin. They will orbit Earth one and a half times while they make a last check of all systems. Then they will set off on a straight course for the moon.

Everything is working perfectly. The astronauts strap themselves back into their

seats. Now they fire the engine that will send them to their destination. There is no turning back. The *Apollo* goes faster and faster—almost 25,000 miles an hour.

Next stop...the moon.





2

How Do You Get to the Moon?

For thousands of years people dreamed of traveling to the moon.

Until a few hundred years ago people weren't even sure what the moon was. They watched it gleam in the darkness. They saw it change its shape and sometimes disappear. Was it a god or goddess? Was it the home of strange, magical beings? Was it a world like our own? It seemed there was no way to find out except by going there.

People had some unusual ideas about how to do that. One man thought a giant spout of water could lift a ship and send it up to the moon. Others thought birds were the



A huge white rocket shoots through the sky into outer space. The *Saturn V* and the three astronauts on board are traveling to a place no one has ever been before—the moon. This is the story of the first walk on the moon and the experiments, plans, and people that made it happen.

Are you ready to take the plunge into chapters?

Do you still like books with colorful pictures?

This book is just right for you!

F&P TEXT LEVEL 0

ISBN 978-0-394-82457-4



RANDOM HOUSE
StepIntoReading.com