

# Additional background information, resources and activities based on the Tampa Bay Times Newspaper in Education publication Space4All.

The material contained in this document is based upon work supported by a National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) grant or cooperative agreement. Any opinions, findings, conclusions or recommendations expressed in this material are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the views of NASA.

### **Table of Contents**

#### Introduction

About Newspaper in Education

Newspapers as informational text

<u>Newspapers as primary and secondary</u> <u>sources</u>

Using the newspaper to teach science

Activities: Analyzing science primary sources

Analyzing a news article

Analyzing photographs and images

Analyzing maps

#### Activities: Evaluating science news

Evaluating science news sources

Evaluating science in the news

E.S.C.A.P.E. Junk News

Evaluating scientific arguments in the news

Reading and interpreting scientific research

#### Activities: Fact v. opinion

Fact vs. Opinion

Analyzing editorials and opinion articles

Write an opinion article

Write a letter to the editor

Analyzing editorial cartoons

### Activities: Other newspaper-based activities

Spinoffs

Ethics of space exploration

From the front page to the history books

Analyzing turning points in history

Appendices

Appendix 1: Newspaper articles

Appendix 2: Editorials and opinion articles

Appendix 3: Newspaper front pages

Appendix 4: Maps

Appendix 5: Editorial Cartoons

Florida Standards related to space

Selected teacher resources

© Tampa Bay Times 2025

### About Newspaper in Education

The Tampa Bay Times Newspaper in Education program (NIE) is a cooperative effort between schools and the Times Publishing Co. to encourage the use of newspapers in print and digital form as educational resources.

NIE serves educators, students and families by providing schools with class sets of the Pulitzer Prize-winning Tampa Bay Times plus award-winning original educational publications, teacher guides, lesson plans, educator workshops and many more resources – all at no cost to schools, teachers or families. NIE teaching materials cover a variety of subjects and are aligned with Florida's education standards.

For more information about NIE, visit <u>tampabay.com/nie</u>, call 727-893-8138 or email <u>ordernie@tampabay.com</u>. Follow us on Facebook at <u>facebook.com/TBTNIE</u>.

NIE is a member of Florida Press Educational Services (FPES), a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization of newspaper professionals that promotes literacy, civic engagement and critical thinking, particularly for young people. To learn more about FPES, visit <u>fpesnie.org</u>.

### Newspapers as informational text

Informational text is nonfiction text whose primary purpose is to inform the reader about the natural or social world. Reading and interpreting informational text is a fundamental component of the Florida's <u>B.E.S.T. Standards for English/Language Arts</u>. The newspaper is an excellent source of informational text. Informational text employs a variety of structures to assist the reader in finding information quickly and efficiently. These can include a table of contents, an index, bold or italicized text, glossaries for specialized vocabulary, embedded definitions for specialized vocabulary, realistic illustrations of photos, captions and other labels, and graphs and charts.

### Newspapers as primary and secondary sources

"Working with primary sources builds a wide range of student skills, from reading complex texts to assessing the credibility of sources to conducting research."

• Library of Congress

The newspaper is both a primary and secondary source. Primary sources are the raw materials of history – original documents and objects that were created at the time under study. Secondary sources are accounts that retell, analyze or interpret events, usually at a distance of time or place (Library of Congress).

### Using the newspaper to teach science

Newspapers are a critical tool for exploring science beyond the classroom and for developing scientific literacy and critical thinking skills. They provide a "living textbook" that updates and extends information contained in textbooks. They also demonstrate practical applications of skills and concepts presented in school curriculum by helping students relate science to daily news relevant to their lives, happening *right now* in *their* state, community and neighborhood.

The goal of Space4All is to help students learn how to:

- Evaluate the quality of scientific information in the news on the basis of its source.
- Evaluate arguments based on evidence.
- Identify scientific issues underlying national and local issues.
- Express positions that are scientifically and technologically informed.

### Activities: Analyzing primary sources

### Analyzing a newspaper article

In small groups or as a class, analyze one of the newspaper articles in <u>Appendix 1</u> using the following Observe-Reflect-Question analysis guiding questions.

### **OBSERVE:** Identify and note details

Write down your answers to the following questions:

- Who published the article? Who was the audience for this article?
- Who was the audience for this newspaper?
- What type of article is this (eye-witness account, straight news article, feature article, editorial, column, reader contribution)?
- On what page and section does the article appear?
- What are the topics of other articles found on the same page or section?
- Is place relevant to this article? How?
- Are one or more dates listed in the article? Was this article written at or around the same time that the text relates to?
- What information is highlighted by the headline and other text callouts, if present?
- Are there any photos or illustrations? What additional information or explanation do they provide?
- What does the text describe, explain, or provide an opinion on?

Share what you have learned with your class.

Florida Standards: ELA.58.EE.1.1; ELA.58.EE.2.1; ELA.58.EE.3.1; ELA.58.EE.4.1; ELA.58.EE.5.1; ELA.K12.EE.6.1; ELA.5.C.1.3; ELA.58.C.1.4; ELA.58.C.2.1; ELA.58.C.3.1; ELA.58.C.4.1; ELA.58.R.2.1; ELA.58.R.2.2; ELA.58.R.2.3; ELA.58.R.2.4; ELA.58.V.1.1; ELA.68.F.2.1; ELA.68.F.2.2; ELA.68.F.2.2; ELA.68.F.2.2; ELA.68.F.2.3; ELA.68.F.2.4; SS.58.A.1.1; SS.68.W.1.3; SC.58.N.1.6

### **REFLECT:** Generate and test hypotheses

Write down your answers to the following questions:

- What is the main idea of the article? List several facts or arguments that support the main idea of the article.
- Is this article a news story or an opinion piece? Is the article trying to inform or persuade? How do you know?
- Are there details that reference other people or events of the time period? What was happening during this time period?
- Why do you think this text was made? What might have been the author's or publisher's purpose? What evidence supports your theory?
- Who do you think was the audience for this article? What evidence supports your conclusion?
- If there was information about the author included, does that information suggest certain biases that person might have had? What do you think those biases were?
- Why do you think the author chose to include these specific details of description or explanation? What information or perspectives might have been left out of the article?
- What source or sources does the author quote or refer to in the article? Do you think these sources are reliable? Why or why not? What evidence supports your conclusion?
- Does this article show clear bias? If so, towards what or whom? What evidence supports your conclusion?
- What do you think the author might have wanted the audience to think or feel? Does the arrangement or presentation of words, illustrations, or both affect how the audience might think or feel? How?
- What do you feel after reading this article?
- If someone wrote this text today, what would be different? What would be the same?
- What did you learn from examining this article? Does any new information you learned contradict or support your prior knowledge about the topic of this article?

Share what you have learned with your class.

Florida Standards: ELA.58.EE.1.1; ELA.58.EE.2.1; ELA.58.EE.3.1; ELA.58.EE.4.1; ELA.58.EE.5.1; ELA.K12.EE.6.1; ELA.5.C.1.3; ELA.58.C.1.4; ELA.58.C.2.1; ELA.58.C.3.1; ELA.58.C.4.1; ELA.58.R.2.1; ELA.58.R.2.2; ELA.58.R.2.3; ELA.58.R.2.4; ELA.58.V.1.1; ELA.68.F.2.1; ELA.68.F.2.2; ELA.68.F.2.2; ELA.68.F.2.3; ELA.68.F.2.4; SS.58.A.1.1; SS.68.W.1.3; SC.58.N.1.6

**QUESTION:** What didn't you learn that you would like to know about?

Write down your answers to the following questions:

- What questions does this article raise?
- What do you wonder about . . .
  - o Who?
  - What?
  - o When?
  - $\circ$  Where?
  - Why?
  - How?
- Examine the words and phrases the author uses. Does the author's language support a particular perspective? Are different viewpoints presented?
- What sources might you consult to learn more?

Share what you have learned with your class.

Florida Standards: ELA.58.EE.1.1; ELA.58.EE.2.1; ELA.58.EE.3.1; ELA.58.EE.4.1; ELA.58.EE.5.1; ELA.K12.EE.6.1; ELA.5.C.1.3; ELA.58.C.1.4; ELA.58.C.2.1; ELA.58.C.3.1; ELA.58.C.4.1; ELA.58.R.2.1; ELA.58.R.2.2; ELA.58.R.2.3; ELA.58.R.2.4; ELA.58.V.1.1; ELA.68.F.2.1; ELA.68.F.2.2; ELA.68.F.2.2; ELA.68.F.2.3; ELA.68.F.2.4; SS.58.A.1.1; SS.68.W.1.3; SC.58.N.1.6

Source: Library of Congress, Getting Started with Primary Sources

### Extension activity: The front page

On page one of a newspaper, you'll find many devices designed to draw in prospective readers. The story that the newspaper's editor considers the most important story of the day is typically located on the upper half of the front page. This space is known as "above the fold." It is called this because print newspapers are often displayed to customers folded so that only the top half of the front page is visible.

On a web page, "above the fold" content is the part of a web page shown before scrolling. Any content you need to scroll down to see is considered "below the fold." The "fold" is where the browser window ends (although the content continues underneath).

Choose two historic newspaper front pages from <u>Appendix 3</u> from the same date. Write a short analysis of the differences between the front pages. Share what you have learned with your classmates.

- What is located "above the fold" on each newspaper's front page?
- How are they different?
- How are they similar?
- What choices have been made in selecting the headlines and images?
- Do you think this was an effective use of the front page? Why or why not?
- How would you organize the stories on the page? What factors might explain any differences between your version and the original?

Florida Standards: ELA.58.EE.1.1; ELA.58.EE.2.1; ELA.58.EE.3.1; ELA.58.EE.4.1; ELA.58.EE.5.1; ELA.K12.EE.6.1; ELA.5.C.1.3; ELA.58.C.1.4; ELA.58.C.2.1; ELA.58.C.3.1; ELA.58.C.4.1; ELA.58.R.2.1; ELA.58.R.2.2; ELA.58.R.2.3; ELA.58.R.2.4; ELA.58.R.3.3; SS.58.A.1.1; ELA.58.V.1.1; ELA.68.F.2.1; ELA.68.F.2.2; ELA.68.F.2.3; ELA.68.F.2.4; SS.68.W.1.3; SC.58.N.1.6

### **Extension activity: Headlines**

A headline in the newspaper gives a general idea of what the news story that accompanies it will be about. Headlines have several purposes:

- Give readers a clear idea what the article is about.
- Tell readers some of the news, even if they don't have time to read the entire article.
- Make readers want to read the entire article.

Using the historical newspaper articles and front pages included in <u>Appendix 1</u> and <u>Appendix 3</u>, choose an article that interests you because of the headline.

Write down the answers to the following questions BEFORE you read the article.

- What is the headline?
- What is the newspaper name? Date? Section and page?
- Write down five or more specific questions that you expect will be answered when you read the entire article.

Read the article you selected. Then write the answers you found to each question you wrote above. If a question was NOT answered in the article, leave the corresponding line blank.

Finally, answer the following questions.

- What words in the headline of the article you read especially encouraged you to read the complete article?
- Was the headline an accurate summary of the article? Explain.
- What important facts would you have missed if you had not read the whole article?

Share what you have learned with your class.

Florida Standards: ELA.58.EE.1.1; ELA.58.EE.2.1; ELA.58.EE.3.1; ELA.58.EE.4.1; ELA.58.EE.5.1; ELA.K12.EE.6.1; ELA.5.C.1.3; ELA.58.C.1.4; ELA.58.C.2.1; ELA.58.C.3.1; ELA.58.C.4.1; ELA.58.R.2.1; ELA.58.R.2.2; ELA.58.R.2.3; ELA.58.R.2.4; ELA.58.V.1.1; ELA.68.F.2.1; ELA.68.F.2.2; ELA.68.F.2.2; ELA.68.F.2.3; ELA.68.F.2.4; SS.58.A.1.1; SS.68.W.1.3; SC.58.N.1.6

Adapted from: "Lesson 1: Predicting Information from Headlines," *The Careful Reader: Teaching Critical Reading Skills with* The New York Times, The New York Times in Education

### Follow up activities

- Study the headlines throughout the main news section of one of the newspapers in <u>Appendix 3</u>. Create a list of characteristics common to most headlines (such as large type size, bold letters, few words, etc.). How do these characteristics compare to the headlines in the main news section of a modern copy of the Tampa Bay Times?
- 2. Choose one headline from one of the newspapers in <u>Appendix 3</u>. Rewrite the headline by replacing some of the wording with synonyms. Are there any changes in meaning as a result of this exercise?
- 3. Share your headline with your classmates.

Florida Standards: ELA.58.EE.1.1; ELA.58.EE.2.1; ELA.58.EE.3.1; ELA.58.EE.4.1; ELA.58.EE.5.1; ELA.K12.EE.6.1; ELA.5.C.1.3; ELA.58.C.1.4; ELA.58.C.2.1; ELA.58.C.3.1; ELA.58.C.4.1; ELA.58.R.2.1; ELA.58.R.2.2; ELA.58.R.2.3; ELA.58.R.3.3; ELA.58.V.1.1; ELA.68.F.2.1; ELA.68.F.2.2; ELA.68.F.2.2; ELA.68.F.2.4; SS.58.A.1.1; SS.68.W.1.3; SC.58.N.1.6

### Analyzing photographs and images

"The first photograph published in an American newspaper – actually a photomechanical reproduction of a photograph – appeared in the Daily Graphic on March 4, 1880. Before that time it was common practice for American editors to enlist artists to sketch and report on news events, from steamboat explosions to the battles of the Civil War. It was not until 1919, with the launching of New York's Illustrated Daily News, that American newspapers began to feature photographs routinely."

- Library of Congress

Photographs document historic events. But more than that, they tell a story.

In small groups or as a class, analyze a photograph or image in the <u>Space4All</u> <u>publication or timeline</u> or in a newspaper front page in <u>Appendix 3</u> using the following Observe-Reflect-Question analysis guiding questions.

### **OBSERVE:** Identify and note details

Write down your answers to the following questions:

- Describe what you see.
- What do you notice first?
- What people and objects are shown?
- How are they arranged?
- What is the physical setting?
- What, if any, words do you see?
- What other details can you see?

Share what you have learned with your class.

Florida Standards: ELA.58.EE.1.1; ELA.58.EE.2.1; ELA.58.EE.3.1; ELA.58.EE.4.1; ELA.58.EE.5.1; ELA.K12.EE.6.1; ELA.5.C.1.3; ELA.58.C.1.4; ELA.58.C.2.1; ELA.58.C.3.1; ELA.58.C.4.1; ELA.58.R.2.1; ELA.58.R.2.2; ELA.58.R.2.3; ELA.58.R.2.4; SS.58.A.1.1; SS.68.W.1.3; SC.58.N.1.6

### **REFLECT:** Generate and test hypotheses

Write down your answers to the following questions:

- Why do you think this image was made?
- What's happening in the image?
- When do you think it was made?
- Who do you think was the audience for this image?
- What tools were used to create this?
- What can you learn from examining this image?
- If someone made this today, what would be different? What would be the same?

Share what you have learned with your class.

```
Florida Standards: ELA.58.EE.1.1; ELA.58.EE.2.1; ELA.58.EE.3.1; ELA.58.EE.4.1; ELA.58.EE.5.1; ELA.K12.EE.6.1; ELA.5.C.1.3; ELA.58.C.1.4; ELA.58.C.2.1; ELA.58.C.3.1; ELA.58.C.4.1; ELA.58.R.2.1; ELA.58.R.2.2; ELA.58.R.2.3; ELA.58.R.2.4; SS.58.A.1.1; SS.68.W.1.3; SC.58.N.1.6
```

**QUESTION:** What didn't you learn that you would like to know about?

Write down your answers to the following questions:

- What questions does this article raise?
- What do you wonder about . . .
  - o Who?
  - o What?
  - o When?
  - Where?
  - Why?
  - How?
- What more do you want to know, and how can you find out?
- What sources might you consult to learn more?

Share what you have learned with your class.

Florida Standards: ELA.58.EE.1.1; ELA.58.EE.2.1; ELA.58.EE.3.1; ELA.58.EE.4.1; ELA.58.EE.5.1; ELA.K12.EE.6.1; ELA.5.C.1.3; ELA.58.C.1.4; ELA.58.C.2.1; ELA.58.C.3.1; ELA.58.C.4.1; ELA.58.R.2.1; ELA.58.R.2.2; ELA.58.R.2.3; ELA.58.R.2.4; SS.58.A.1.1; SS.68.W.1.3; SC.58.N.1.6

Source: Library of Congress, Getting Started with Primary Sources

### **Extension activity: Blue Marble**

In 1959, the U.S. satellite Explorer VI took the <u>first photographic image of the planet</u> <u>Earth from space</u> while passing over the Central Pacific Ocean.

In 1972, the astronauts of Apollo 17 took the <u>first photograph of the whole round Earth</u> and the only one ever captured by a human being from space, known as the "Blue Marble Shot."

In 2012, 2.5 terabytes of data from 312 orbits of the Suomi National Polar-orbiting Partnership (Suomi NPP) satellite was mapped over existing Blue Marble imagery of Earth to provide a <u>realistic composite of Earth's city lights</u>. This became known as the "Black Marble."

Use the Observe-Reflect-Question analysis guiding questions above to compare these three images of Earth. You can find even more images in <u>NASA's Earth Observatory</u>.

As a class, discuss.

Florida Standards: ELA.58.EE.1.1; ELA.58.EE.2.1; ELA.58.EE.3.1; ELA.58.EE.4.1; ELA.58.EE.5.1; ELA.K12.EE.6.1; ELA.5.C.1.3; ELA.58.C.1.4; ELA.58.C.2.1; ELA.58.C.3.1; ELA.58.C.4.1; ELA.58.R.2.1; ELA.58.R.2.2; ELA.58.R.2.3; ELA.58.R.2.4; ELA.58.V.1.1; ELA.68.F.2.1; ELA.68.F.2.2; ELA.68.F.2.2; ELA.68.F.2.3; ELA.68.F.2.4; SS.58.A.1.1; SS.68.W.1.3; SC.5.E.58.3; SC.58.N.1.6

Source: ReadWriteThink, "The first picture of Earth was taken by the U.S. satellite Explorer VI in 1959"

### Extension activity: Writing photo captions

A caption, also called a cutline, is the block of text that accompanies a photo. There are typically three parts of a caption:

- 1. In the first sentence, explain what is happening in the photo in present tense. Answer the 5 Ws. Identify everyone fully by first name, last name, year in school, or some other identifying information (unless the group is very large).
- 2. The second sentence is often past tense and gives background information about the photo or the situation. The focus should be on giving interesting information to readers and telling a story.
- 3. The third sentence should give a quote from a witness or someone who was involved in the activity.

Writing photo captions is challenging because it requires you to include a lot of information in a small space. When writing a caption, you should assume that the photo

might be published by itself without an accompanying story. This means that the caption must include all the relevant information in no more than two or three sentences.

Choose a photo from the <u>Space4All publication or timeline</u> with a one-sentence caption. Imagine what additional background information would be interesting to readers. Write a second sentence using your new information (it does not need to be true). Next, write an imaginary quote from one of the photo's subjects as the caption's third sentence.

Now look at the photos that accompany stories in the newspapers in <u>Appendix 3</u>. Imagine you must cut a story due to space issues, so you need to include all of the relevant information in the photo caption. Choose one photo and change the caption to include the important information in two or three sentences.

Share one of the photos and captions with your classmates.

Florida Standards: ELA.58.EE.1.1; ELA.58.EE.2.1; ELA.58.EE.3.1; ELA.58.EE.4.1; ELA.58.EE.5.1; ELA.K12.EE.6.1; ELA.5.C.1.3; ELA.58.C.1.4; ELA.58.C.2.1; ELA.58.C.3.1; ELA.58.C.4.1; ELA.58.R.2.1; ELA.58.R.2.2; ELA.58.R.2.3; ELA.58.R.2.4; ELA.58.V.1.1; ELA.68.F.2.1; ELA.68.F.2.2; ELA.68.F.2.2; ELA.68.F.2.3; ELA.68.F.2.4; SS.58.A.1.1; SS.68.W.1.3; SC.58.N.1.6

Source: Journalism Education Association

### Follow up activity

Select one of the historic photographs and images in the <u>Space4All publication or</u> <u>timeline</u> or a newspaper in <u>Appendix 3</u>. In a brief paragraph, predict what will happen one minute after the scene shown in the image. One hour after? Explain the reasoning behind your predictions. Next, research what actually happened. Was your prediction accurate? Share what you have learned with your class.

Florida Standards: ELA.58.EE.1.1; ELA.58.EE.2.1; ELA.58.EE.3.1; ELA.58.EE.4.1; ELA.58.EE.5.1; ELA.K12.EE.6.1; ELA.5.C.1.3; ELA.58.C.1.4; ELA.58.C.2.1; ELA.58.C.3.1; ELA.58.C.4.1; ELA.58.R.2.1; ELA.58.R.2.2; ELA.58.R.2.3; ELA.58.R.2.4; ELA.58.V.1.1; ELA.68.F.2.1; ELA.68.F.2.2; ELA.68.F.2.2; ELA.68.F.2.3; ELA.68.F.2.4; SS.58.A.1.1; SS.68.W.1.3; SC.5.E.58.3; SC.58.N.1.6

### Analyzing maps

Maps are as old as language. Mapmakers use images and lines that convey important information and can sometimes tell stories. Maps can be simple illustrations, or they can be high tech: from GPS to street map views in real time. In small groups or as a class, analyze a map from <u>Appendix 4</u> using the following Observe-Reflect-Question analysis guiding questions.

**OBSERVE:** Identify and note details

- Describe what you see
- What do you notice first?
- What size and shape is the map?
- What graphical elements do you see?
- What on the map looks strange or unfamiliar?
- Describe anything that looks like it does not belong on a map
- What place or places does the map show?
- What, if any, words do you see?

Share what you have learned with your class.

Florida Standards: ELA.58.EE.1.1; ELA.58.EE.2.1; ELA.58.EE.3.1; ELA.58.EE.4.1; ELA.58.EE.5.1; ELA.K12.EE.6.1; ELA.5.C.1.3; ELA.58.C.1.4; ELA.58.C.2.1; ELA.58.C.3.1; ELA.58.C.4.1; ELA.58.R.2.1; ELA.58.R.2.2; ELA.58.R.2.3; ELA.58.R.2.4; SS.58.A.1.1; SS.68.W.1.3; SC.5.E.58.3; SC.58.N.1.6

#### **REFLECT:** Generate and test hypotheses

- Why do you think this map was made?
- Who do you think the audience was for this map?
- How do you think this map was made?
- How does it compare to current maps of this place?
- What does this map tell you about what the people who made it knew and what they didn't?
- If this map was made today, what would be different?
- What would be the same?

Share what you have learned with your class.

Florida Standards: ELA.58.EE.1.1; ELA.58.EE.2.1; ELA.58.EE.3.1; ELA.58.EE.4.1; ELA.58.EE.5.1; ELA.K12.EE.6.1; ELA.5.C.1.3; ELA.58.C.1.4; ELA.58.C.2.1; ELA.58.C.3.1; ELA.58.C.4.1; ELA.58.R.2.1; ELA.58.R.2.2; ELA.58.R.2.3; ELA.58.R.2.4; SS.58.A.1.1; SS.68.W.1.3; SC.5.E.58.3; SC.58.N.1.6

**QUESTION:** What didn't you learn that you would like to know about?

- What do you wonder about . . .
  - o Who?
  - o What?
  - When?
  - Where?
  - o Why?
  - How?
- What more do you want to know, and how can you find out?
- What sources might you consult to learn more?

Share what you have learned with your class.

Florida Standards: ELA.58.EE.1.1; ELA.58.EE.2.1; ELA.58.EE.3.1; ELA.58.EE.4.1; ELA.58.EE.5.1; ELA.K12.EE.6.1; ELA.5.C.1.3; ELA.58.C.1.4; ELA.58.C.2.1; ELA.58.C.3.1; ELA.58.C.4.1; ELA.58.R.2.1; ELA.58.R.2.2; ELA.58.R.2.3; ELA.58.R.2.4; SS.58.A.1.1; SS.68.W.1.3; SC.58.N.1.6

Source: Library of Congress, Getting Started with Primary Sources

### Follow up activities

- 1. Choose one of the maps in <u>Appendix 4</u> and write a brief description of the map in your own words.
- 2. Choose one of the maps in <u>Appendix 4</u>. Use the Internet to search for at least one additional map of the same location from a different time period. Compile a list of changes over time and other differences and similarities between the maps.
- **3.** Share what you have learned with your class.

Florida Standards: ELA.58.EE.1.1; ELA.58.EE.2.1; ELA.58.EE.3.1; ELA.58.EE.4.1; ELA.58.EE.5.1; ELA.K12.EE.6.1; ELA.5.C.1.3; ELA.58.C.1.4; ELA.58.C.2.1; ELA.58.C.3.1; ELA.58.C.4.1; ELA.58.R.2.1; ELA.58.R.2.2; ELA.58.R.2.3; ELA.58.R.2.4; ELA.58.R.3.3; SS.58.A.1.1; SS.68.W.1.3; SC.5.E.58.3; SC.58.N.1.6

### Additional map resources:

- <u>NASA Mapping Our World</u> <u>interactive visualization</u>
- NASA Hubble Sky Map
- <u>Map of observable universe</u>
- Deep space sky map

- ESA Euclid's great cosmic atlas
- <u>Live Starlink satellite and</u> coverage map
- Map of space launch sites

### Evaluating scientific news sources

News stories are a great way to learn about new ideas, discoveries and research in science and technology. But some sources of information are not as good as others.

Many sources compete for attention online, including social media, partisan blogs and bogus sites posing as legitimate news organizations. Before believing information, you need to figure out if that information can be trusted.

Watch the PBS Learning video "How Sensational Claims Can Spread Misleading Information" at <u>florida.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/how-sensational-claims-spread-misleading-info/video-mediawise-student-reporting-labs/</u>.

What three questions should you ask whenever you see scientific claims online?

- Who is behind the information?
- What is the evidence?
- What do other sources say?

Many national and large regional news organizations, such as the Washington Post, the Tampa Bay Times or network news, have a track record of publishing accurate and verifiable information. Here are five steps that you can take:

- 1. **Do a quick search:** Conducting a simple search for information about a news source is a key first step in evaluating its credibility.
- 2. Look for standards: Reputable news organizations aspire to ethical guidelines and standards, including fairness, accuracy and independence.
- 3. **Check for transparency:** Quality news sources should be transparent, not only about their reporting practices (see above), but also about their ownership and funding.
- 4. **Examine how errors are handled:** Credible news sources are accountable for mistakes and correct them. Do you see evidence that this source corrects or clarifies errors?
- 5. **Assess news coverage**: An important step in vetting sources is taking time to read and assess several news articles.

Find an article about science that is interesting to you and that includes information or facts from at least two different individuals. Read through the article.

Next, read the article again and fill out the <u>Source: Can I Trust the Creators? worksheet</u> on the following pages. On a scale of 1 to 10, where 1 is no trust and 10 is deep trust, rate your overall level of trust in the article and explain your rating.

As a class, discuss your findings.

Florida Standards: ELA.58.EE.1.1; ELA.58.EE.2.1; ELA.58.EE.3.1; ELA.58.EE.4.1; ELA.58.EE.5.1; ELA.K12.EE.6.1; ELA.5.C.1.3; ELA.58.C.1.4; ELA.58.C.2.1; ELA.58.C.3.1; ELA.58.C.4.1; ELA.58.R.2.1; ELA.58.R.2.2; ELA.58.R.2.3; ELA.58.R.2.4; ELA.58.V.1.1; ELA.68.F.2.1; ELA.68.F.2.2; ELA.68.F.2.2; ELA.68.F.2.3; ELA.68.F.2.4; SS.58.A.1.1; SS.68.W.1.3; SC.8.E.5.12; SC.58.N.1.6

Sources: News Literacy Project, <u>Is it legit?</u>; NewseumED.org, <u>Source: Can I Trust the Creator?</u>; PBS Learning Be MediaWise, <u>Evaluating Sources</u>

Name:

Date:



### Source: Can I Trust the Creators?

Find a news story that is interesting to you and that includes information/facts from at least two different individuals. Then use this chart to determine if it is a trustworthy source of information.

News story title:	Date:
Publication: Writer(s): (If there are more than one, pick one to	o research and circle their name.)
Publication	Writer
Is there an About Page? (circle one): YES / NO	Is there a bio or info page? (circle one): YES / NO
If so, summarize the information.	If so, summarize the information.
Is there a parent company that owns the publication or another organization that funds it? If so, name it here.	Can you contact the writer via email or social media? (If yes, write their email or handle(s) here.)
What advertisements are on the page? Do any seem linked to suspicious products or services?	Does the writer have an active social media account(s)? How often do they post? Are their posts professional?
Do a search for the publication's name and list two additional facts about it: 1.	Have they written other stories for the same publication or other publications? List two examples of their work: 1,
2.	2.

Name:

Date:



Write one reason to trust this publication, if any.	Write one reason to trust this writer, if any.
Write one reason <b>not</b> to trust this publication, if any.	Write one reason not to trust the writer, if any.

Now that you have determined whether you should trust who produced the story, let's go deeper. Find two sources (people) who provided information for this story.

Source #2 name and description (if unnamed, write anonymous):
What information did this source provide?
Search for the source's name (if given) to find out: 3. Are they an expert on this topic?
4. Would they have a reason to know the information they provided to the writer?
If the source is anonymous, why do you think the writer trusted them?
What else would you like to know about this source to determine how trustworthy they are?

On a scale of 1 to 10, where 1 is no trust and 10 is deep trust, rate your overall level of trust in this story:

Explain your rating.

### Evaluating science in the news

News stories are a great way to learn about new ideas, discoveries and research in science and technology. But some sources of information are not as good as others. Before believing information from the news, you need to figure out if that information can be trusted.

Find an article about science that is interesting to you. *Before* reading your article, write down your answers to the following questions.

- Article title:
- Date published or last updated:
- Is this date recent enough for your topic? Explain.
- Is the publisher/sponsor trustworthy? What are their basic values?

For online articles only:

- What domain does the URL use?
  - .gov or .edu (generally trustworthy)
  - .com, .net or .org (can be owned by anyone)
- Does the site's name match the URL?
- Are ads on the website (if any) clearly marked?

Now, read the article, then write down your answers to the following questions.

- What are the author's credentials/qualifications?
- What is the author trying to do?
  - o Inform
  - Persuade
  - Present an opinion
  - $\circ$  Sell something
  - $\circ$  Entertain
- What affiliations or conflicts of interest are mentioned?
- Does the author seem objective (uses facts, not opinions)? Explain.
- Does the author give references for data or quotations?

Read the "Criteria for Evaluating Sources" worksheet in Appendix TBD. Based on all the information you found, is your article trustworthy? Explain your decision using evidence from your answers and the "Criteria for Evaluating Sources" worksheet. Share your thoughts with your classmates.

Florida Standards: ELA.58.EE.1.1; ELA.58.EE.2.1; ELA.58.EE.3.1; ELA.58.EE.4.1; ELA.58.EE.5.1; ELA.K12.EE.6.1; ELA.5.C.1.3; ELA.58.C.1.4; ELA.58.C.2.1; ELA.58.C.3.1; ELA.58.C.4.1; ELA.58.R.2.1; ELA.58.R.2.2; ELA.58.R.2.3; ELA.58.R.2.4; ELA.58.R.3.3; ELA.58.V.1.1; ELA.68.F.2.1; ELA.68.F.2.2; ELA.68.F.2.3; ELA.68.F.2.4; SS.58.A.1.1; SS.68.W.1.3; SC.5.E.58.3; SC.58.N.1.6

Source: BioInteractive.org, Evaluating Science in the News

### Extension activity: What does this mean to me?

Write a detailed paragraph reacting to the ideas in the article and their possible impacts. Your paragraph should answer one or more of the following questions:

- 1. What did you find interesting or surprising about the article?
- 2. How does the information in the article connect with what you've learned in science class?
- 3. How does the information in the article relate to you, your community or society in general?

Florida Standards: ELA.58.EE.1.1; ELA.58.EE.2.1; ELA.58.EE.3.1; ELA.58.EE.4.1; ELA.58.EE.5.1; ELA.K12.EE.6.1; ELA.5.C.1.3; ELA.58.C.1.4; ELA.58.C.3.1; ELA.58.C.4.1; ELA.58.R.2.1; ELA.58.R.2.2; ELA.58.R.2.3; ELA.58.R.2.4; ELA.58.R.3.3; ELA.58.V.1.1; ELA.68.F.2.1; ELA.68.F.2.2; ELA.68.F.2.2; ELA.68.F.2.2; ELA.68.F.2.3; ELA.68.F.2.4; SS.58.A.1.1; SS.68.W.1.3; SC.5.E.58.3 SC.58.N.1.6

Source: BioInteractive.org, Evaluating Science in the News

### E.S.C.A.P.E. Junk News

E.S.C.A.P.E., an acronym for six key concepts for evaluating information, is another tool to help consumers of science news determine whether information they find online is trustworthy.

- $E \rightarrow Evidence$ : Do the facts hold up?
- $S \rightarrow Source:$  Who made this, and can I trust them?
- $C \rightarrow Context$ : What's the big picture?
- $A \rightarrow Audience$ : Who is the intended audience?
- $P \rightarrow Purpose$ : Why was this made?
- $E \rightarrow Execution$ : How is this information presented?

As a class, review the E.S.C.A.P.E. Junk News poster on the following page.

Break the class into small groups and assign each group one or two of the E.S.C.A.P.E. concepts.

In small groups, read the Daily Mail article "Scientists reveal what space does to your hair" on the following pages. Use the E.S.C.A.P.E. Junk News worksheets on the following pages to analyze it through the lens of your specific concept(s).

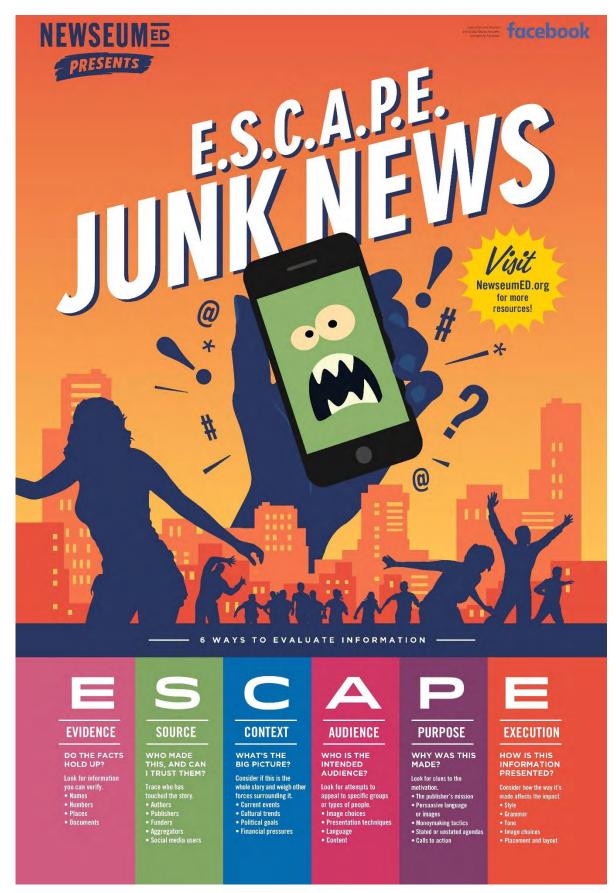
Share your group's findings with the class. As a class, decide if the story is trustworthy or not.

Class discussion questions:

- 1. From one E.S.C.A.P.E. concept alone, could you make a determination about the reliability of this story? Why or why not?
- 2. Which of these concepts do you think is the most helpful in figuring out whether information is reliable? Why?
- 3. Which of these concepts do you think is the most difficult to understand or apply? Why?
- 4. Did you feel you had enough time to apply your concept to this story? In real life, how could you speed up the process of evaluating information that crosses your path?

Florida Standards: ELA.58.EE.1.1; ELA.58.EE.2.1; ELA.58.EE.3.1; ELA.58.EE.4.1; ELA.58.EE.5.1; ELA.K12.EE.6.1; ELA.5.C.1.3; ELA.58.C.1.4; ELA.58.C.3.1; ELA.58.C.4.1; ELA.58.R.2.1; ELA.58.R.2.2; ELA.58.R.2.3; ELA.58.R.2.4; ELA.58.R.3.3; ELA.58.V.1.1; ELA.68.F.2.1; ELA.68.F.2.2; ELA.68.F.2.2; ELA.68.F.2.3; ELA.68.F.2.3; ELA.68.F.2.4; S.58.A.1.1; SS.68.W.1.3; SC.5.E.58.3; SC.58.N.1.6

Source: NewseumED.org, E.S.C.A.P.E. Junk News





### Scientists reveal what space does to your hair - as rescued NASA astronauts stun the world with their appearance

#### By WILIAM HUNTER

Published: 07:31 EDT, 20 March 2025 | Updated: 07:53 EDT, 20 March 2025

After nine long months aboard the **International Space Station**, **NASA**'s astronauts have finally returned to Earth.

But Butch Wilmore and Suni Williams' shockingly changed appearances have stunned the world since their landing on Tuesday.

In particular, their long stint in space appears to have turned the astronauts' hair grey.

Williams, whose 'gaunt' appearance previously sparked health concerns, **appeared notably different** – with a long head of grey hair.

While some online commenters joked that this could be caused by a lack 'of hair dye' on the ISS, scientists say that space really can change your hair.

Research has shown that microgravity aboard the ISS interferes with hair growth.

Trapped outside Earth's gravitational pull, hair follicles in astronauts' heads start to undergo genetic changes that suppress growth.

Some studies even suggest that microgravity leads to an increase in 'oxidative stress' in hair cells, which is a potential cause of greying.

Williams, 59, and Wilmore, 62, first arrived on the ISS in June aboard the Boeing Starliner spacecraft.

However, after a series of technical issues <u>made it impossible to return on the problem-plagued capsule</u>, the pair were forced to wait aboard the ISS until the departure of SpaceX's Crew-9 mission in March.

In that time, Williams and Wilmore were exposed to the harsh conditions of space and the extreme stress of living in a floating laboratory 240 miles (386km) above the Earth's surface.

Even during their stay, health experts were concerned that they may have been experiencing dramatic weight loss, but their return has raised new questions about the impact of space on the human body.

When Williams arrived on the ISS, her long flowing locks prompted Donald Trump to dub her the 'woman with the wild hair'.

However, as Williams was helped from the SpaceX Crew Dragon capsule, following their splashdown of the coast of Florida, her hair appeared to have become grey.

On social media, commenters were quick to suggest that the change may be due to her grey roots growing out.

On X, formerly Twitter, one commenter wrote: 'Well, looks like Suni Williams, stranded on the International Space Station, has run out of hair dye'.

#### What does space do to your hair?

#### Thinning

- Studies have shown that microgravity activates genes in hair follicles that suppress hair growth.
- This could lead to hair not being replaced as it grows.
- Research on mice has also shown that spaceflight causes skin thinning and disrupts hair's growth cycle.

#### Greying

- There is no direct evidence that spaceflight causes greying.
- However, microgravity does increase oxidative stress in hair cells which has been linked to greying.
- Likewise, time in space causes emotional stress which can trigger hair to become grey or white.

Another added: 'She expected to be away for a week...so obviously she couldn't continue coloring her hair.'

In reality, it is possible that Williams and Wilmore's dramatic transformations are <u>a product of the intense</u> forces of space.

A study published in 2016 by scientists from the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) found that microgravity alters gene expression in human hair follicles.

The study collected hair samples from ten astronauts living on the ISS for six months.

These samples showed that the spaceflight increased the activation of certain genes which restrict hair growth – prompting balding fears.

In the paper, Dr Masahiro Terada, a researcher at JAXA, wrote: 'We found that spaceflight alters human hair follicle gene expression.

'In some astronauts, genes related to hair growth such as FGF18, ANGPTL7 and COMP were upregulated during flight, suggesting that spaceflight inhibits cell proliferation in hair follicles.'

The study raises the prospect that humans may turn into a bald species if we start living in space and lose the ability to replenish hair as it falls out.

The changes were also found to be more pronounced in male astronauts than in female astronauts.

Dr Terada wrote: 'Although there are many differences such as hormone levels or functions between males and females, female astronauts appear to have a better response against the features of the space environment, as one example, FGF18 expression in females was more stable in space than in males.'

Likewise, a 2015 study looked at the skin and hair cells from mice who had spent three months aboard the ISS.

Researchers found that the mice had thinner skin and a disrupted hair follicle cycle.

Currently, there is no direct research into whether time spent in space causes hair greying.

However, there are studies which show spaceflight increases some of the known causes of greying.

In particular, studies have shown that changes to gene regulation during spaceflight leads to increased 'oxidative stress' in hair tissues.

Some research has suggested that oxidative stress, a type of damage created by harmful molecules called 'reactive oxygen', could be a key cause of greying.

If spaceflight does increase oxidative stress in hair cells, this could explain why some astronauts' hair appears to grey.

Likewise, astronauts undergo a huge amount of emotional stress during their time in space.

Studies have shown that astronauts undergo something called 'long-term spaceflight composite stress'.

This is a combination of multiple sources of stress unique to space such as microgravity, isolation, confinement, constant noise, and circadian rhythm disturbance.

According to research from the China Astronaut Research and Training Center, this stress is so severe that it can even trigger depression and cognitive dysfunction.

There is well-documented evidence that experiencing stress causes hair to turn grey by triggering the body's fight-or-flight reflex.

When this happens, your body's nervous system releases a chemical called norepinephrine into the hair follicles which turns the hair grey or white.

Given the stressful circumstances surrounding their stay on the ISS, it is perhaps unsurprising that Williams and Wilmore might look a little more grey once they finally got home.

Williams' transformation was so profound that it sparked a bizarre conspiracy theory that the entire mission had been faked.

On social media, confused conspiracy theorists mixed up photos taken before and after the nine-month mission, taking this as evidence that Williams's hair had actually darkened while in space.

One baffled commenter wrote: 'It was nice that Sunita Williams thought to put a color through her hair to cover up the grey for the journey home.'

'Not only that, but her gray hair magically transformed back to a rich, dark brown—no roots, no touch-ups, just pure space alchemy,' another commenter mistakenly claimed.

https://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-14518479/Scientists-NASA-space-changes-hair.html



### E.S.C.A.P.E. Junk News

### $E \rightarrow Evidence$ Do the facts hold up?

Your news story (title):

Choose three important facts from this story. The facts could be the names and roles of key individuals involved, a specific event that took place, a quote, a photograph or any other type of evidence that backs up the story.

Example fact: Fire Station 106 was closed because of a gas leak in the kitchen.

Example fact: Jennifer Smith was the firefighter who first noticed the problem.

Fact 1:

Fact 2:

Fact 3:

Verify these facts. In other words, find another source that independently reported the same fact (not a story that references the story you already have). List the second source that either confirms or contradicts each fact.

Fact 1: Confirmed? YES / NO Source:

Fact 2: Confirmed? YES / NO Source:

Fact 3: Confirmed? YES / NO Source:

Based on this quick investigation, do you think the facts in this story hold up? YES / NO

Explain:



### E.S.C.A.P.E. Junk News

## $\label{eq:source} S \rightarrow Source$ Who made this, and can I trust them?

Your news story (title):

Track down the following information for your news story:

- 1. **The publisher** (The site or organization that provided a space for this story; for example, *The Washington Times*)
- The author(s) (The name(s) and profession(s) of the person or people who wrote it; for example, Sally Hawk, technology reporter)
- One source of information within the story (A person, document or other source for the facts used in the story; for example, Juan Ortiz, a computer science professor, or *Tech Times* magazine survey on app usage)

For each element identified above, answer the following based on your overall impression. Using a scale of 1-10, where 1 is not at all and 10 is very strongly, how much do you trust these sources to provide accurate information about the topic of your news story?

1. The publisher 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Explain your rating. (For example: I have never heard of this source and the website looks cheap)

- 2. The author(s) 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Explain your rating.
- 3. The source within the story 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 Explain your rating.

Overall, do you think the story is a reliable source of information? YES / NO Explain:



### E.S.C.A.P.E. Junk News

### C → Context What's the big picture?

Your news story (title):

What is the main issue or event in this story?

Find and read two other stories about the same issue or event.

- Story 1 Title: Publication or website:
- Story 2 Title: Publication or website:

For each additional story, answer the following question: Did this story provide any new or different information about the event/issue?

Story 1 YES / NO Explain:

Story 2 YES / NO Explain:

Based on this quick investigation, do you think this story presents the big picture, or just a piece of the story?

BIG PICTURE / ONLY A PIECE Explain:



### E.S.C.A.P.E. Junk News

### A → Audience Who is the intended audience?

Your news story (title):

Publication/website:

Look closely at your news story and its publication/website and answer the following questions:

- 1. What does the **publication/website name** tell you about the intended audience? (For example, *The Washington Post* is intended in part for people living or interested in Washington, D.C.)
- 2. What does the text of the story tell you about the intended audience? (For example, difficult vocabulary or unusual terms might indicate that an article is intended for a well-educated audience.)
- 3. What does the other content on the publication/website tell you about the intended audience? (For example, is there a theme in the stories they publish? Do they often write about specific groups or interests?)
- 4. Based on your answers above, describe the type or types of individuals that make up the audience for this story:
- 5. Do you think the intended audience shaped the content of this story? In other words, did the writer or publisher change, omit or twist anything in the story to appeal to a certain group? YES / NO

Explain:

Name:

Date:



### E.S.C.A.P.E. Junk News

### $P \rightarrow Purpose$ Why was this made?

Your news story (title):

Look for the following possible purposes in your news story and explain why you think each one is or is not applicable.

- Was this story made to educate or inform people about an event/issue? (Possible clues: detailed facts and clear sources, complete information about the topic) YES / NO Explain:
- Was this story made to earn money for the author or publisher? (Possible clues: ads around the story, appeals for money/support) YES / NO Explain:
- 3. Was this story made to influence how someone feels about this event/issue? (Possible clues: labeled as opinion or perspective, highly emotional language that "tugs the heartstrings," extreme praise or criticism for key individuals or groups involved in the event or issue) YES / NO Explain:

Of the three purposes listed above, which do you think is the **main** purpose of this story, and why? (Or, if you think the purpose is something other than the three listed above, explain.)

Based on your answers above about this story's purpose, do you think the story is credible? YES / NO Explain:

Name:

Date:



### E.S.C.A.P.E. Junk News

### $E \rightarrow Execution$ How is this information presented?

#### Your news story (title):

On a scale of 1 to 10, where a 1 is very sloppy/poorly done and a 10 is very professional/well done, rate each of the following elements of your story:

1. Clarity (the writer's ability to clearly present information)

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Explain your rating. (For example: I found this story very confusing.)

- 2. Style (the writer's tone and ability to engage a reader)
  1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
  Explain your rating. (For example: I found this story very boring.)
- 3. Grammar, typos and spelling (the writer's technical abilities)

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Explain your rating. (For example: I found lots of incomplete sentences.)

4. Layout/format (the way the story appears)

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

Explain your rating. (For example: The page is well-organized and easy to read.)

Based on this quick evaluation of the execution, do you think this information is reliable? YES / NO Explain:

### Evaluating scientific arguments in the news

In everyday life, an argument is a disagreement between people. But in science, an argument is a statement backed by evidence. The purpose of a scientific argument is to answer a question about the natural world. The basic components of an argument are:

- 1. **Claim:** A statement backed by evidence.
- 2. **Evidence:** The information (data or observations) that supports the claim. It should be objective and based on facts.
- 3. **Reasoning:** The explanation of how the evidence supports the claim. It should rely on accepted scientific theories and concepts.

Find an article about science in the Tampa Bay Times. Read through the article and write down your answers to the following questions as an outline or on a graphic organizer.

- 1. What is the claim?
- 2. What evidence is provided to support the claim?
- 3. What parts of the claim are supported by each data point or observation? You may find it helpful to mark up the article with highlights, underlining, circling or numbering.

As a class, discuss:

- Does the article present a strong argument? Why or why not? How might it be improved?
- How does the information in the article connect with what you've learned in science class?
- How does the information in the article relate to you, your community or society in general?
- What did you find interesting or surprising about the article?

Florida Standards: SS.58.A.1.1; SC.58.N.1.5; ELA.58.R.2.4; ELA.K12.EE.1.1; ELA.K12.EE.2.1; ELA.58.C.1.3; ELA.58.C.1.5; ELA.58.C.3.1; ELA.58.C.4.1; ELA.58.F.1.4; ELA.58.R.2.2; ELA.58.R.2.3; ELA.58.R.2.4; ELA.58.V.1.3; SC.58.N.1.6; SS.58.A.1.1; SS.68.W.1.3

Sources: BioInteractive.org, Evaluating Science in the News; The Lawrence Hall of Science, Argumentation Toolkit

### Reading and interpreting scientific research

Often, news articles will point to a scientific research paper. The Internet has made scientific papers widely accessible. But because they are written for medical and scientific professionals, they can be difficult for people without a medical or scientific background to understand.

Reading and understanding research papers is a skill that every scientist has had to learn during graduate school. Reading a scientific paper is a completely different process from reading an article about science in a blog or newspaper.

Here are some tips to get you started, adapted from "<u>How to read and understand a</u> <u>scientific article</u>" by Jennifer A. Raff, Ph.D.

- 1. **Begin by reading the introduction, not the abstract.** The abstract is that dense first paragraph at the very beginning of a paper. In fact, that's often the only part of a paper that many non-scientists read when they're trying to build a scientific argument. (This is a terrible practice. Don't do it.)
- 2. **Identify the big question.** Not "What is this paper about?" but "What problem is this entire field trying to solve?" This helps you focus on why this research is being done. Look closely for evidence of agenda-motivated research.
- 3. **Summarize the background in five sentences or less.** What work has been done before in this field to answer the big question? What are the limitations of that work? What, according to the authors, needs to be done next? You need to be able to explain why this research has been done in order to understand it.
- 4. **Identify the specific question(s).** What exactly are the authors trying to answer with their research? There may be multiple questions, or just one. Write them down.
- 5. **Identify the approach.** What are the authors going to do to answer the specific question(s)?
- 6. **Read the methods section.** Draw a diagram for each experiment, showing exactly what the authors did. Include as much detail as you need to fully understand the work.
- 7. **Read the results section.** Write one or more paragraphs to summarize the results for each experiment, each figure, and each table. Don't yet try to decide what the results mean; just write down what they are. You'll often find that results are summarized in the figures and tables. Pay careful attention to them! Also pay attention to:
  - a. The words "significant" and "non-significant." These have precise statistical meanings.

- b. Graphs. Do they have error bars on them? For certain types of studies, a lack of confidence intervals is a major red flag.
- c. The sample size. Has the study been conducted on 10 people, or 10,000 people? For some research purposes a sample size of 10 is sufficient, but for most studies larger is better.
- 8. Determine whether the results answer the specific question(s). What do you think they mean? Don't move on until you have thought about this. It's OK to change your mind in light of the authors' interpretation -- in fact, you probably will if you're still a beginner at this kind of analysis -- but it's a really good habit to start forming your own interpretations before you read those of others.
- 9. **Read the conclusion/discussion/interpretation section**. What do the authors think the results mean? Do you agree with them? Can you come up with any alternative way of interpreting them? Do the authors identify any weaknesses in their own study? Do you see any that the authors missed? (Don't assume they're infallible!) What do they propose to do as a next step? Do you agree with that?
- 10. **Go back to the beginning and read the abstract.** Does it match what the authors said in the paper? Does it fit with your interpretation of the paper?
- 11. Find out what other researchers say about the paper. Who are the experts in this particular field? Do they have criticisms of the study that you haven't thought of, or do they generally support it? Don't neglect to do this but do it last, so you are better prepared to think critically about what other people say.

Find a scientific article online that relates to one of the space news articles you have read. <u>Sciencedirect.com</u> is a good place to start. Follow the steps above to read and understand the research. Did the news article accurately portray the research? Why or why not? Using the articles in the Tampa Bay Times as models, write a new article summarizing the research for a general audience.

Share what you have learned with your class.

Florida Standards: ELA.58.EE.1.1; ELA.58.EE.2.1; ELA.58.EE.3.1; ELA.58.EE.4.1; ELA.58.EE.5.1; ELA.K12.EE.6.1; ELA.5.C.1.3; ELA.58.C.1.4; ELA.58.C.3.1; ELA.58.C.4.1; ELA.58.R.2.1; ELA.58.R.2.2; ELA.58.R.2.3; ELA.58.R.2.4; ELA.58.R.3.3; ELA.58.V.1.1; ELA.68.F.2.1; ELA.68.F.2.2; ELA.68.F.2.2; ELA.68.F.2.3; ELA.68.F.2.3; ELA.68.F.2.4; S.5.8.A.1.1; SS.68.W.1.3; SC.5.E.58.3; SC.58.N.1.6

**Source:** "How to read and understand a scientific article" by Jennifer A. Raff, Ph.D. A full-length version of this article originally appeared on the author's personal blog (violentmetaphors.com).

#### Fact vs. Opinion

The editorial section of the newspaper provides readers with differing opinions about news events. These articles express opinions and ideas and are expected to have a point of view. They do not necessarily report news items. Instead, they comment on current events.

- **Editorials** are written by a member or members of the editorial staff of a newspaper and express the opinion or idea of the newspaper as a whole.
- **Opinion articles** express the opinion or idea of only the person or people writing the article. These are sometimes called op-eds.
- Letters to the editor present the views of the newspaper's readers.

Editorials and opinion articles are often categorized into four types depending on their purpose:

- To explain, interpret or inform
- To praise or commend
- To argue, persuade, propose a solution or call for action
- To criticize or identify a problem

Knowing the difference between fact and opinion is very important.

Choose two pieces about the same space-related news event from the historical newspapers in <u>Appendix 3</u>. One should be a factual news report and the other an interpretive news analysis, editorial or opinion column.

In small groups, read the selected articles. As you read, label each sentence as "F" for fact or "O" for opinion. Make notes about the reasons and process used to distinguish fact from opinion.

As a class, talk through students' decisions at the sentence level. Which is the straight news report and which is the news analysis piece? As a class, create a list of guiding questions to ask when reading any article – news, opinion or a mix – to help differentiate fact from opinion.

Finally, ask individual students to choose their own article and read it to test the effectiveness of their guiding questions. As with the earlier group task, students should focus on distinguishing between fact and opinion on the sentence level, labeling each sentence with an "O" or an "F."

After their work is complete, reconvene as a class and discuss the efficacy of the guiding questions:

- Did they work?
- Were you always able to tell the difference between fact and opinion? Why or why not? What's difficult about this?
- What might be changed to make the questions more effective?
- Why is it important to have such questions in your "reader's toolbox" as you approach any news media source?

Florida Standards: ELA.58.EE.1.1; ELA.58.EE.2.1; ELA.58.EE.3.1; ELA.58.EE.4.1; ELA.58.EE.5.1; ELA.K12.EE.6.1; ELA.5.C.1.3; ELA.58.C.1.4; ELA.58.C.3.1; ELA.58.C.4.1; ELA.58.R.2.1; ELA.58.R.2.2; ELA.58.R.2.3; ELA.58.R.2.4; ELA.58.R.3.3; ELA.58.V.1.1; ELA.68.F.2.1; ELA.68.F.2.2; ELA.68.F.2.2; ELA.68.F.2.2; ELA.68.F.2.3; ELA.68.F.2.4; SS.58.A.1.1; SS.68.W.1.3; SC.5.E.58.3; SC.58.N.1.6

Sources: NewseumED.org, <u>Here's What We Think: Editorials and Opinion Articles</u>; The New York Times Learning Network, <u>News</u> and 'News Analysis: Navigating Fact and Opinion in The Times

#### Analyzing editorials and opinion articles

Most newspapers have an editorial and opinion section. These articles do not report news; instead, they express opinions and ideas about current events.

- *Editorials* are written by a member or members of the editorial staff of a newspaper and express the opinion of the newspaper.
- *Opinion articles*, sometimes called op-eds, express the opinion or idea of only the person or people writing the article.

Read the editorials and opinion articles in <u>Appendix 2</u>. For each editorial and article, fill out the NewseumED Here's What We Think Worksheet on the following page.

As a class, discuss your findings.

Florida Standards: ELA.58.EE.1.1; ELA.58.EE.2.1; ELA.58.EE.3.1; ELA.58.EE.4.1; ELA.58.EE.5.1; ELA.K12.EE.6.1; ELA.5.C.1.3; ELA.58.C.1.4; ELA.58.C.3.1; ELA.58.C.4.1; ELA.58.R.2.1; ELA.58.R.2.2; ELA.58.R.2.3; ELA.58.R.2.4; ELA.58.R.3.3; ELA.58.V.1.1; ELA.68.F.2.1; ELA.68.F.2.2; ELA.68.F.2.2; ELA.68.F.2.3; ELA.68.F.2.3; ELA.68.F.2.4; S.58.A.1.1; SS.68.W.1.3; SC.58.N.1.6

Source: NewseumED, Here's What We Think: Editorials and Opinion Articles

Name: Date:



#### Here's What We Think: Editorials and Opinion Articles

Most newspapers have an editorial and opinion section. These articles express a writer's or the staff's personal views. They do not necessarily report news; rather, they comment on current events.

Read three editorials or opinion articles. Find one editorial and one opinion article from your local newspaper (print or online) and one editorial from a news organization elsewhere in the country or world. Answer the questions for each op-ed or editorial.

1. Na	ame of the editorial or opinion article. When and where did it appear?
2. W	ho do you think is the intended audience? Who is likely to read this?
3. V	/hat is the issue/controversy?
	hat is the type/purpose of the editorial or opinion piece? Explain/inform Praise Persuade/a call for action Criticize
6. D	escribe the tone of the article oes this op-ed or editorial provide factual information? If so, what information? How do you know ue? What evidence or sources does the author provide?
7. Is	this information important for people to know? If so, why? If not, why not?
8. Do	you agree with what this editorial or opinion article argues for? Why or why not?

#### Write an opinion article

Choose one of the editorials and opinion articles in <u>Appendix 2</u>. Do you agree with the author's point of view? Why or why not?

Write an opinion article expressing your viewpoint. Use the opinion articles in the Tampa Bay Times or at <u>tampabay.com/opinion</u> as models for your article.

- Begin with an objective statement/introduction of the issue or controversy.
- State and discuss the opposing viewpoint.
- Refute the opposing viewpoint.
- State your position and reasoning. Use facts and details.
- Offer a realistic solution.
- Conclude concisely.

Florida Standards: ELA.58.EE.1.1; ELA.58.EE.4.1; ELA.58.EE.5.1; ELA.58.EE.6.1; ELA.58.F.2.1; ELA.58.C.1.3; ELA.58.C.1.4; ELA.58.C.1.5; ELA.58.C.2.1; ELA.58.C.3.1; ELA.58.C.4.1; ELA.58.C.5.1; ELA.58.R.2.2; ELA.58.R.2.3; ELA.58.V.1.1

Source: NewseumED, Here's What We Think: Editorials and Opinion Articles

#### Letter to the editor

A letter to the editor of a newspaper is a letter addressed to the editor and meant for publication in the paper. It is a way for individuals to share their opinions on current events and issues with both the editorial staff and the readership of the paper.

Choose one of the editorials and opinion articles in <u>Appendix 2</u>. Do you agree with the author? Why or why not? Write a letter to the editor advocating for or against this idea. Use the letters to the editor in the Tampa Bay Times or at <u>tampabay.com/opinion</u> as models for your letter. Your purpose in this letter is to state your opinion and support it with evidence. Your letter should include:

- A salutation ("Dear Editor:").
- The date, article title and author of the article that you are responding to.
- An introductory statement (a topic sentence) clearly stating the main point you are going to make.
- One or two facts, examples or evidence to support that point.
- A concluding sentence, which gives a call to action or a statement of how this issue will affect others.
- A signature block with your name, date and city, and any credentials that make you a credible source on this topic.

**Extension activity:** In pairs, exchange and read one another's draft letters. After reading the drafts, use the ReadWriteThink Letter to the Editor Peer Review Questions below to provide feedback.

- 1. Does the letter begin with a salutation and end with a signature block?
- 2. What article is the letter writer discussing? Is the article named in the first sentence or paragraph?
- 3. In the first paragraph, what main reason does the letter writer give for responding to the article? What position is the letter writer taking on the issue?
- 4. What specific points does the letter writer use to support the position taken in the letter?
- 5. How does the letter conclude? Is the conclusion appropriate for the letter?
- 6. What advice would you give the author of this letter?
- 7. What did you like the most about this letter? Why?

After students have shared and received feedback, revise your drafts based on the feedback.

**Extension activity:** Submit your letter to the Tampa Bay Times at tampabay.com/opinion/submit-letter.

Florida Standards: ELA.58.EE.1.1; ELA.58.EE.4.1; ELA.58.EE.5.1; ELA.58.EE.6.1; ELA.58.F.2.1; ELA.58.C.1.3; ELA.58.C.1.4; ELA.58.C.1.5; ELA.58.C.2.1; ELA.58.C.3.1; ELA.58.C.4.1; ELA.58.C.5.1; ELA.58.C.1.5; ELA.58.R.2.2; ELA.58.R.2.3; ELA.58.V.1.1; SS.58.A.1.1; SS.58.A.1.1; SS.58.N.1.6

**Sources:** The New York Times in the Composition Classroom, <u>Letter to the Editor</u>; ReadWriteThink.org, <u>Persuading an Audience</u>: <u>Writing Effective Letters to the Editor</u>

#### Analyzing editorial cartoons

Newspaper editorial cartoons are graphic expressions of their creator's ideas and opinions.

Editorial cartoons differ from comic strips. Editorial cartoons appear on the newspaper's editorial or front page, not on the comics page. Editorial cartoons are sometimes referred to as political cartoons, because they often deal with political issues.

Like written editorials, editorial cartoons have an educational purpose. They are intended to make readers think about current political issues, and can provide a window into history by showing us what people were thinking and talking about at a given time and place.

Use the guiding questions below to analyze the editorial cartoons in <u>Appendix 5</u>.

OBSERVE: Identify and note details

Write down your answers to the following questions:

- Describe what you see.
- What do you notice first?
- What people and objects are shown?
- What, if any, words do you see?
- What do you see that looks different than it would in a photograph?
- What do you see that might refer to another work of art or literature?
- What do you see that might be a symbol?
- What other details can you see?

Share what you have learned with your class.

Florida Standards: ELA.58.EE.1.1; ELA.58.EE.4.1; ELA.58.EE.5.1; ELA.58.EE.6.1; ELA.58.F.2.1; ELA.58.C.1.3; ELA.58.C.1.4; ELA.58.C.1.5; ELA.58.C.2.1; ELA.58.C.3.1; ELA.58.C.4.1; ELA.58.C.5.1; ELA.58.C.1.5; ELA.58.R.2.2; ELA.58.R.2.3; ELA.58.V.1.1; SS.58.A.1.1; SS.68.W.1.3

REFLECT: Generate and test hypotheses

Write down your answers to the following questions:

- What's happening in this cartoon?
- What was happening when this cartoon was made?

- Who do you think was the audience for this cartoon?
- What issue do you think this cartoon is about?
- What do you think the cartoonist's opinion on this issue is?
- What methods does the cartoonist use to persuade the audience?

Share what you have learned with your class.

```
Florida Standards: ELA.58.EE.1.1; ELA.58.EE.4.1; ELA.58.EE.5.1; ELA.58.EE.6.1; ELA.58.F.2.1; ELA.58.C.1.3; ELA.58.C.1.4; ELA.58.C.1.5; ELA.58.C.2.1; ELA.58.C.3.1; ELA.58.C.4.1; ELA.58.C.5.1; ELA.58.C.1.5; ELA.58.R.2.2; ELA.58.R.2.3; ELA.58.V.1.1; SS.58.A.1.1; SS.68.W.1.3
```

QUESTION: What didn't you learn that you would like to know about?

Write down your answers to the following questions:

- What do you wonder about...
  - o Who?
  - What?
  - When?
  - Where?
  - Why?
  - How?
- What more do you want to know, and how can you find out?

Share what you have learned with your class.

```
Florida Standards: ELA.58.EE.1.1; ELA.58.EE.4.1; ELA.58.EE.5.1; ELA.58.EE.6.1; ELA.58.F.2.1; ELA.58.C.1.3; ELA.58.C.1.4; ELA.58.C.1.5; ELA.58.C.2.1; ELA.58.C.3.1; ELA.58.C.4.1; ELA.58.C.5.1; ELA.58.C.1.5; ELA.58.R.2.2; ELA.58.R.2.3; ELA.58.V.1.1; SS.58.A.1.1; SS.68.W.1.3
```

#### Extension activity: Identifying persuasive techniques

Cartoonists use a variety of techniques, such as symbolism, exaggeration, labeling, analogy and irony, to communicate ideas and opinions with readers.

Use the chart on the following page, adapted from the Library of Congress, to identify the persuasive techniques used in the editorial cartoons you analyzed.

Once you've identified the persuasive techniques that the cartoonist used, answer these questions:

• What issue is this editorial cartoon about?

- What do you think is the cartoonist's opinion on this issue?
- What other opinion can you imagine another person having on this issue?
- Did you find this cartoon persuasive? Why or why not?
- What other techniques could the cartoonist have used to make this cartoon more persuasive?

Share what you have learned with your class.

Florida Standards: ELA.58.EE.1.1; ELA.58.EE.4.1; ELA.58.EE.5.1; ELA.58.EE.6.1; ELA.58.F.2.1; ELA.58.C.1.3; ELA.58.C.1.4; ELA.58.C.1.5; ELA.58.C.2.1; ELA.58.C.3.1; ELA.58.C.4.1; ELA.58.C.5.1; ELA.58.C.1.5; ELA.58.R.2.2; ELA.58.R.2.3; ELA.58.V.1.1; SS.58.A.1.1; SS.68.W.1.3

Sources: Library of Congress, Analyzing Political Cartoons Teachers Guide

Symbolism	Cartoonists use simple objects, or <b>symbols</b> , to stand for larger concepts or ideas.
	After you identify the symbols in a cartoon, think about what the cartoonist means each symbol to stand for.
Exaggeration	Sometimes cartoonists overdo, or <b>exaggerate</b> , the physical characteristics of people or things in order to make a point.
	When you study a cartoon, look for any characteristics that seem overdone or overblown. (Facial characteristics and clothing are some of the most commonly exaggerated characteristics.) Then, try to decide what point the cartoonist was trying to make by exaggerating them.
Labeling	Cartoonists often <b>label</b> objects or people to make it clear exactly what they stand for.
	Watch out for the different labels that appear in a cartoon, and ask yourself why the cartoonist chose to label that particular person or object. Does the label make the meaning of the object more clear?
Analogy	An <b>analogy</b> is a comparison between two unlike things. By comparing a complex issue or situation with a more familiar one, cartoonists can help their readers see it in a different light.
	After you've studied a cartoon for a while, try to decide what the cartoon's main analogy is. What two situations does the cartoon compare? Once you understand the main analogy, decide if this comparison makes the cartoonist's point more clear to you.
Irony	<b>Irony</b> is the difference between the ways things are and the way things should be, or the way things are expected to be. Cartoonists often use <b>irony</b> to express their opinion on an issue.
	When you look at a cartoon, see if you can find any irony in the situation the cartoon depicts. If you can, think about what point the irony might be intended to emphasize. Does the irony help the cartoonist express his or her opinion more effectively?

#### Spinoffs

Every day, we interact with technology that was invented or improved by the space program. Spinoffs – industrial or consumer uses of technology invented by NASA – have had a huge economic impact on Florida and the U.S.

Watch the short YouTube video <u>Actor Wil Wheaton On How NASA Space Spinoffs Are</u> <u>Changing Life Here On Earth. Next, explore spinoff.nasa.gov</u>.

Choose one of the spinoff products featured in these resources that has had an impact on Florida. Use the Internet to research the economic impact of this technology. Consider both positive (such as business startups or improvements to human life and safety) and negative (such as job losses or increased pollution) consequences.

Create an infographic depicting what you have learned. Share your ideas with your class.

Florida Standards: ELA.58.EE.1.1; ELA.58.EE.2.1; ELA.58.EE.3.1; ELA.58.EE.4.1; ELA.58.EE.5.1 ELA.K12.EE.6.1; ELA.5.C.1.3; ELA.58.C.1.4; ELA.58.C.3.1; ELA.58.C.4.1; ELA.58.R.2.1; ELA.58.R.2.2; ELA.58.R.2.3; ELA.58.R.2.4; ELA.58.R.3.3; ELA.58.V.1.1; ELA.68.F.2.1; ELA.68.F.2.2; ELA.68.F.2.3; ELA.68.F.2.4; SS.58.A.1.1; SS.68.W.1.3; SC.5.E.58.3; SC.8.E.5.12; SC.8.E.5.10; SC.58.N.1.6

#### Extension activity: How much is space exploration worth?

Use the resources from <u>Analyzing editorial cartoons</u> to analyze the <u>editorial cartoons</u> about the economics of space in Appendix 5.

After you analyze these cartoons in a well-developed paragraph, share your thoughts with your class.

Florida Standards: ELA.58.EE.1.1; ELA.58.EE.4.1; ELA.58.EE.5.1; ELA.58.EE.6.1; ELA.58.F.2.1; ELA.58.C.1.3; ELA.58.C.1.4; ELA.58.C.1.5; ELA.58.C.2.1; ELA.58.C.3.1; ELA.58.C.4.1; ELA.58.C.5.1; ELA.58.C.1.5; ELA.58.R.2.2; ELA.58.R.2.3; ELA.58.V.1.1; SS.58.A.1.1; SS.58.A.1.1; SS.58.N.1.6

#### Extension activity: How much is space exploration worth?

Use the list of guiding questions from <u>Analyzing a news article</u> to analyze the following newspaper articles in <u>Appendix 2</u>:

- "To Infinity and Beyond?: More wasteful spending at NASA," U.S. News and World Report, 2013
- "The Real Cost of NASA Missions," *Popular Science*, 2015
- "Space business an economic engine for Florida," *South Florida Sun Sentinel*, 2017

Florida Standards: ELA.58.EE.1.1; ELA.58.EE.4.1; ELA.58.EE.5.1; ELA.58.EE.6.1; ELA.58.F.2.1; ELA.58.C.1.3; ELA.58.C.1.4; ELA.58.C.1.5; ELA.58.C.2.1; ELA.58.C.3.1; ELA.58.C.4.1; ELA.58.C.5.1; ELA.58.C.1.5; ELA.58.R.2.2; ELA.58.R.2.3; ELA.58.V.1.1; SS.58.A.1.1; SS.68.W.1.3; SC.8.E.5.12; SC.58.N.1.6

#### Ethics of space exploration

Every science issue has implications on many levels: personal, social, economic, political and ethical. Advances in communication technology, for example, may increase connectivity but may also raise questions of privacy rights.

Space exploration raises many ethical issues. For example, the increasing population of "space junk," or debris from space missions, increases the potential danger to space vehicles from all nations; while the landing of humans and uncrewed vehicles on the Moon and other planets risks contaminating those environments with microbes from Earth.

One of the most difficult ethical considerations of space exploration involves the risks to the humans involved in crewed missions.

As with terrestrial air travel, where the most dangerous periods are takeoff and landing, the most dangerous periods of space travel are liftoff and re-entry.

The first manned Apollo mission, scheduled for launch on Feb. 21, 1967, was put on hold by the death of the crew in a launch pad fire during a practice session. The crew of Space Shuttle Challenger's tenth mission, STS-51L, was lost during takeoff. The crew of Space Shuttle Columbia 28th mission, STS-107, was lost during re-entry.

But even after having made it to space, astronauts are not out of danger. Instead, they are exposed to other risks which may prove just as dangerous.

Space is a hostile – and, without protection, lethal – environment for humans. The temperatures in Earth orbit range from a low of -200 degrees F to a high of 250 degrees F. Microgravity causes high blood pressure, muscle atrophy and bone loss. Astronauts living on the International Space Station are exposed to 80 times the radiation of humans on Earth and have experienced permanent vision loss after returning to Earth.

A recent study has shown that Apollo astronauts, the only astronauts subjected to the radiation of deep space, die of cardiovascular diseases four or five times more often than the rest of the astronaut corps.

Read the Florida Today article "Study is first on deaths of Apollo crew" in <u>Appendix 1</u>.

Next, watch the video "Apollo Astronauts' Health Issues Reveal a Hurdle to Deep-Space Travel" at <u>https://nieonline.com/tbtimes/videooftheweek.cfm?id=322</u>.

In small groups, use the document "<u>Gravity, Who Needs It? NASA Studies Your Body in</u> <u>Space</u>" and NASA's Human Research Program website at <u>nasa.gov/hrp</u> to research the hazards that astronauts face. As a group, decide: is human space exploration worth the risks?

Write an editorial for or against human space exploration, using the guidelines in <u>Analyzing editorials and opinion articles</u> and <u>Write an opinion article</u> and using the editorials in the Tampa Bay Times as models. Groups should use the evidence they gathered during their research to back up their argument. Address questions such as:

- Are human beings just too fragile for deep space exploration?
- Should we rely on unmanned vehicles to explore the solar system and beyond?
- Could we ever build viable space colonies on the moon, Mars or elsewhere?

Florida Standards: ELA.58.EE.1.1; ELA.58.EE.4.1; ELA.58.EE.5.1; ELA.58.EE.6.1; ELA.58.F.2.1; ELA.58.C.1.3; ELA.58.C.1.4; ELA.58.C.1.5; ELA.58.C.2.1; ELA.58.C.3.1; ELA.58.C.4.1; ELA.58.C.5.1; ELA.58.C.1.5; ELA.58.R.2.2; ELA.58.R.2.3; ELA.58.V.1.1; SS.58.A.1.1; SS.68.W.1.3; SC.58.N.1.1; SC.8.E.5.12

#### Extension Activity: NASA's one-year mission & twins Study

In March 2015, American Astronaut Scott Kelly and Russian Cosmonaut Mikhail Kornienko began a one-year stay (twice as long as typical U.S. missions) on the International Space Station (ISS). The purpose of the One-Year Mission was to study the medical, psychological and biomedical challenges faced by astronauts during longduration space flight.

\The Twins Study evaluated identical twin astronauts Scott and Mark Kelly during the year Scott Kelly was in space. By studying two individuals who have the same genetics, but are in different environments, for one year, researchers hoped to gain broader insight into the subtle effects and changes that may occur in spaceflight as compared to Earth.

Watch the video "What we can learn from Scott Kelly's year in space" at <a href="https://nieonline.com/tbtimes/videooftheweek.cfm?id=302">https://nieonline.com/tbtimes/videooftheweek.cfm?id=302</a>.

Discuss as a class:

- What are the biggest hazards for people spending a long time in space?
- Should we send people to Mars? Why or why not? Would you want to go?

- When do you think a manned mission to Mars could take place?
- Should such a mission involve many nations sharing the costs, risks and discoveries?
- Could nations set aside their rivalries to mount space missions?
- What could manned missions do that unmanned missions can't?
- Are robots much better suited to space exploration than people?

Florida Standards: ELA.58.EE.1.1; ELA.58.EE.2.1; ELA.58.EE.3.1; ELA.58.EE.4.1; ELA.58.EE.5.1; ELA.58.EE.6.1; ELA.58.C.1.2; ELA.58.C.1.3; ELA.58.C.1.4; ELA.58.C.1.5; ELA.58.C.2.1; ELA.58.C.3.1; ELA.58.C.4.1; ELA.58.C.5.2; ELA.58.F.1.3; ELA.58.F.1.4; ELA.58.R.2.1; ELA.58.R.2.2; ELA.58.R.2.3; ELA.58.R.2.4; ELA.58.R.3.3; ELA.58.V.1.1; ELA.58.V.1.2; ELA.58.V.1.3; ELA.68.F.2.1; ELA.68.F.2.2; ELA.68.F.2.4; SS.58.A.1.1; SC.58.N.1.1; SC.8.E.5.12

Sources: Apollo Astronauts' Health Issues Reveal a Hurdle to Deep-Space Travel, https://nieonline.com/tbtimes/videooftheweek.cfm?id=322; What we can learn from Scott Kelly's year in space, https://nieonline.com/tbtimes/videooftheweek.cfm?id=302

#### From the front page to the history books

Journalism is often referred to as the first rough draft of history. Over time, breaking news and contemporary news coverage evolves to become part of the historical record.

In small groups, study one of the newspaper front pages in <u>Appendix 3</u>. Fill in the left column of the From the Front Page to the History Books worksheet on the following pge with the key facts about a historical event from the front page, as well as any questions that are not answered.

Next, use the Internet to find information to fill in the right column of the worksheet with key facts about their event from a historical source, as well as any answers they can find for the questions they posed in the left column.

Complete step 3 on the worksheet, underlining facts that are the same and circling those that do not match up. Then underline the questions for which you found answers and circling those for which you did not.

Finally, respond to the three questions in step 4 on the worksheet, analyzing your findings.

As a class, discuss:

- Which facts did you find were the same in both sources? Which were only found in one or the other? Why do you think this was the case?
- Which of the questions you wrote after reading the news source are still unanswered? Why do you think that is?
- What is the role of a reporter? What is the role of a historian? Compare and contrast.
- How much time must pass before news becomes history?

Florida Standards: ELA.58.EE.1.1; ELA.58.EE.2.1; ELA.58.EE.3.1; ELA.58.EE.4.1; ELA.58.EE.5.1 ELA.58.EE.6.1; ELA.58.C.1.2; ELA.58.C.1.3; ELA.58.C.1.4; ELA.58.C.1.5; ELA.58.C.2.1; ELA.58.C.3.1; ELA.58.C.4.1; ELA.58.C.5.2; ELA.58.F.1.3; ELA.58.F.1.4; ELA.58.R.2.1; ELA.58.R.2.2; ELA.58.R.2.3; ELA.58.R.2.4; ELA.58.R.3.3; ELA.58.V.1.1; ELA.58.V.1.2; ELA.58.V.1.3; ELA.68.F.2.1; ELA.68.F.2.2; ELA.68.F.2.4; SS.58.A.1.1

Source: NewseumED.org, From the Front Page to the History Books

Name:

Date:



#### From the Front Page to the History Books

HISTORY Name of your source:	
Key facts about the event:	
Answers to your questions:	
	Name of your source: Key facts about the event:

- 2. Find an account of this event in a history book or encyclopedia, or on a reliable history website. Using the information you find, fill out the right column of the chart above.
- 3. Underline the key facts that appear in both sources. Circle the key facts that do not. Underline the questions for which you were able to find answers. Circle the ones for which you were not.
- 4. On another sheet of paper, respond to these questions: A) Why do you think some key facts appear in both sources and others do not? B) Did you find answers to all of your questions? Explain why you think you did or did not. C) Do you think your front page story could be considered a first draft of history? Explain your answer.

#### Analyzing turning points in history

Major historic events inevitably bring about changes in society, from politics to daily routines.

Think about a major event in your life (such as moving, starting at a new school, the arrival of a sibling etc.). How was your life different before and after this event?

Choose a space "milestone," or major event, from the <u>Space4All publication or timeline</u> or the newspaper front pages in <u>Appendix 3</u>. How do you think this major event changed the lives of the people who lived through it?

Consider both big changes and small changes. For example, the 9/11 attacks prompted the U.S.-led war in Afghanistan (big change), and it also led to "God Bless America" being played at ballparks (smaller change).

Working individually or in small groups, use the Analyzing Turning Points in History worksheet on the following page to make a hypothesis about the changes this event set in motion (left column of chart) and give your evidence/reason for each (right column of chart). Next, respond to the prompt in step 2 on the worksheet, evaluating how these events continue to affect our lives today.

As a class, discuss how major events can change the course of history in big and small ways.

- What were some of the big changes you found evidence to support? What were some of the smaller changes?
- What type of evidence/reasons did you use to make your hypotheses about changes?
- Sort the changes you hypothesized into categories. Possible categories: predictable versus unpredictable; positive versus negative; political versus personal, etc.
- Which event do you think had the biggest impact, resulting in the most significant changes? Why?

Source: NewseumED.org, Before and After: Analyzing Turning Points in History

Florida Standards: ELA.58.EE.1.1; ELA.58.EE.2.1; ELA.58.EE.3.1; ELA.58.EE.4.1; ELA.58.EE.5.1; ELA.58.EE.6.1; ELA.58.C.1.2; ELA.58.C.1.3; ELA.58.C.1.4; ELA.58.C.1.5; ELA.58.C.2.1; ELA.58.C.3.1; ELA.58.C.4.1; ELA.58.C.5.2; ELA.58.F.1.3; ELA.58.F.1.4; ELA.58.R.2.1; ELA.58.R.2.2; ELA.58.R.2.3; ELA.58.R.2.4; ELA.58.R.3.3; ELA.58.V.1.1; ELA.58.V.1.2; ELA.58.V.1.3; ELA.68.F.2.1; ELA.68.F.2.2; ELA.68.F.2.4; SS.58.A.1.1

Name: Date:



#### Before and After: Analyzing Turning Points in History

CHANGE (If you lived at this time, how would this event have changed your life?)	REASON (Why do you think this change would occur? Look for evidence on the front pages.)
1.	
2.	
1,	
2.	
1.	
2.	
1.	
2.	

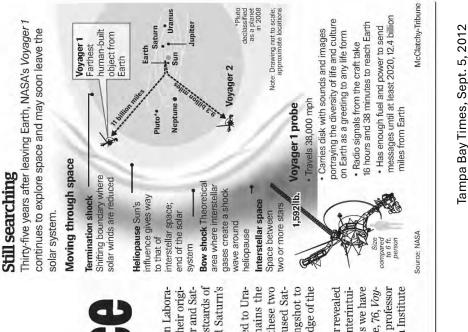
On another piece of paper, respond to this question: How do these events continue to affect our lives today? (Give at least one example for each event.)

#### **Extension activity: Journaling History**

Write a journal entry from the perspective of someone living shortly before this event occurred, then a second entry from after. At the top of your entry, give a description of who "you" (the person writing this journal entry) are. Use the second journal entry to describe some of the changes that have happened in your life since your chosen big event.

Florida Standards: ELA.58.EE.1.1; ELA.58.EE.2.1; ELA.58.EE.3.1; ELA.58.EE.4.1; ELA.58.EE.5.1; ELA.58.EE.6.1; ELA.58.C.1.2; ELA.58.C.1.3; ELA.58.C.1.4; ELA.58.C.1.5; ELA.58.C.2.1; ELA.58.C.3.1; ELA.58.C.4.1; ELA.58.C.5.2; ELA.58.F.1.3; ELA.58.F.1.4; ELA.58.R.2.1; ELA.58.R.2.2; ELA.58.R.2.3; ELA.58.R.2.4; ELA.58.R.3.3; ELA.58.V.1.1; ELA.58.V.1.2; ELA.58.V.1.3; ELA.68.F.2.1; ELA.68.F.2.2; ELA.68.F.2.4; SS.58.A.1.1

## **Appendix 1: Newspaper articles**



ovager

urn, and they sent back postcards of Jupiter's big red spot and Saturn's nal goal was to tour Jupiter and Sat-Voyager 2 then journeyed to Ura-The NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory built the spacecraft. Their origiglittery rings. solar system. Outside the bubble is a new frontier in the Milky Way - the through, scientists expect a calmer Voyager 1 is currently more than This hot and turbulent area is created by a stream of charged particles space between stars. Once it plows Voyager 1 is in uncharted celestial lar space is near, but it could take enveloped in a giant plasma bubble. territory. The boundary that separates the solar system and intersteldays, months or years to cross it. environment by comparison.

from the sun.

spacecraft will bid adieu to the solar made object will have escaped to the

Sooner or later, the workhorse system – the first time a human-

stars.

ager 2 first rocketed out of Earth's they would last. Now, they are the

When NASA's Voyager I and Voy-

other side.

grip in 1977, no one knew how long longest-operating spacecraft in history and the most distant, at billions Today marks the 35th anniversary of Voyager 1's launch to Jupiter and

Thirty-five years after leaving Earth, Voyager I is reaching for the

Associated Press

nus and Neptune. It remains the only spacecraft to fly by these two urn as a gravitational slingshot to catapult itself toward the edge of the outer planets. Voyager I used Sat-

tive - results, which means we have ager's chief scientist and a professor of physics at the California Institute "Time after time, Voyager revealed a lot to learn," said Ed Stone, 76, Voyunexpected – kind of counterintuiof Technology.

Voyager 2, which celebrated its

trails behind at 9 billion miles from

Saturn. It is now flitting around the fringes of the solar system, which is

the sun.

launch anniversary two weeks ago,

11 billion miles from the sun. Twin

of miles from Earth.

Back to top



NASA/AP

A crop of "Outredgeous" red romaine lettuce from NASA's Veggie plant growth system.

#### **SPACE STATION**

#### Astronauts eat space-grown lettuce

A group of astronauts harvested the first samples of lettuce grown on the International Space Station and ate it as Earthlings watched the live stream of the historic salad preparation on Monday. The NASA experiment, called Veg-01, will help scientists determine the feasibility of fresh-grown food for long-term space missions, such as ones that would send astronauts to Mars. This isn't the first batch of lettuce grown. The first round of romaine was returned to Earth and tested for safety. Some day soon, astronauts could count on a more ready supply of space veggies.

Tampa Bay Times, Aug. 11, 2015

## Study is first on deaths of Apollo crew

### DEMOCRAT SENIOH WRITER BYRON DOBSON

TALLAHASSEE — A high number of astronauts from the breakthrough Apollo program suffered from cardiovascular problems, according to a just-released study led by a Florida State University pro-

The study on the deaths of the astronauts was con-ducted by professor Michael Delp, dean of Florida State University's College of Human Sciences, and a team of researchers, including FSU postdoctoral re-searcher Payal Ghosh. The report is being published fessor and a team of researchers.

in Scientific Reports.

Delp and his researchers are looking at the corre-lation between the development of cardiovascular problems and the astronauts' exposure to deep-space

# See Apollo, Page 7A

Continued from Page 3A Apollo

radiation.

Flights into space between 1968 and 1972. Nine of those flew beyond Earth's orbit into deep space. According to NASA's website, the resents the first time research has been The study is significant in that it repconducted on the deaths of Apollo astronauts. The Apollo program lasted from (961 to 1972. It launched 11 manned

first four flights tested the equipment used in the Apollo program. Six of the other seven flights landed on the moon. The first moon landing occurred in 1969.

moon. They conducted scientific re-search studying the lunar surface and Twelve astronauts walked on the brought back moon rocks to Earth.

In the Scientific Reports paper, Delp says the men who traveled into deep by any other astronauts or cosmonauts. That exposure may have resulted in space as part of the lunar missions were diation that have not been experienced exposed to levels of galactic cosmic racardiovascular problems.

"We know very little about the effects of deep space radiation on human health, particularly on the cardiovascu-lar system," Delp said in a release. "This gives us the first glimpse into its adverse effects on humans."

Delp is working with NASA to con-duct additional studies on the Apollo astronauts regarding their cardiovascu-lar health. The Apollo research was funded by National Space and Biomedi-cal Research Institute and the NASA Space Biology Program. Significant to space exploration

Delp's research comes as the United States and other nations, plus private organizations, make plans for deep space travel.

sions around the moon from 2020 to pean Space Agency are all looking at lu-nar missions. SpaceX, owned by Elon Musk, has proposed landing humans on 2030 in preparation for a manned flight to Mars. Russia, China and the Euro-NASA has plans for U.S. orbital mis-Mars in the next 10 years.

The men in the Apollo program experienced different environmental conditions than anyone else in the world when they traveled into deep space,

He found that 43 percent of deceased Delp said.

vascular problem. That is four to five times higher than non-flight astronauts Apollo astronauts died from a cardioand astronauts who have traveled in low Earth orbit.

ed in the study. The eighth - Edgar Mitchell - died after the data analysis Of the 24 men who flew into deep eight have died and seven were includspace on the Apollo lunar missions,

mice to the type of radiation that Apollo astronauts would have experienced. Af-ter six months — the equivalent of 20 Delp and his colleagues also exposed had been completed.

an impairment of arteries that is known to lead to the development of atherohuman years - the mice demonstrated sclerotic cardiovascular disease in hunuans

"What the mouse data show is that deep space radiation is harmful to vas-

cular health," Delp said. Delp holds a doctorate and a master's degree in exercise physiology from the University of Georgia. His expertise is in the study of effects of physical activmore specifically, the microcirculation, according to his FSU Web page. ity on the cardiovascular system and

#### Space cookies slow to make, taste unknown

**BY MARCIA DUNN** Associated Press

CAPE CANAVERAL — The results are finally in for the first chocolate chip cookie bake-off in space.

While looking more or less normal, the best cookies required two hours of baking time last month up at the International Space Station. It takes far less time on Earth, under 20 minutes.

And how do they taste? No one knows.

Still sealed in individual baking pouches and packed in their spaceflight container, the cookies remain frozen in a Houstonarea lab after splashing down two weeks ago in a SpaceX capsule. They were the first food baked in space from raw ingredients.

The makers of the oven, Texasbased Nanoracks, expected a difference in baking time in space, but not that big.

"There's still a lot to look into to figure out really what's driving that difference, but definitely a cool result," said Mary Murphy, a manager at Nanoracks.

Italian astronaut Luca Parmitano was the master baker in December, radioing down a description as he baked them one by one in the prototype Zero G Oven.

The first cookie — in the oven for 25 minutes at 300 degrees Fahrenheit — ended up seriously under-baked. He more than doubled the baking time for the next two, and the results were still so-so. The fourth cookie stayed in the oven for two hours, and finally success.

Tampa Bay Times, Jan. 24, 2020

## Successful moon mission vaults China into ranks of space powers

#### **BY GERRY SHIH** Washington Post

TAIPEI, Taiwan — Bearing 4.4 lbs. of lunar rock and soil, China's Chang'e-5 capsule touched down on the frozen steppes of Inner Mongolia early Thursday and vaulted China into the ranks of only three nations that have ventured to the moon and brought back samples.

The mission will provide earthbound researchers with the first fresh batch of lunar material in 44 years. The last delivery came in 1976, when the Soviet Luna 24 mission scooped up about six ounces of moon rocks and returned.

The Chang'e-5 mission launched on Nov. 24, and its lander touched down Dec. 1 near Mons Rümker, a volcanic mound on the near side of the moon. Chinese officials say the site is of a younger geological age and can provide new insights about the makeup of the moon and the universe compared with sites sampled in the 1960s and 1970s by the Soviet Union and United States.

The mission was also significant, according to Chinese space officials, because it was the first time China synchronized and docked vessels in the moon's orbit.

Footage released by state media showed the Chang'e-5's copper-colored return capsule nestled safely in the snow and recovery staff members celebrating next to a Chinese flag. China's space-faring exploits have stoked national pride and have been a priority for Chinese leader Xi Jinping, who has spoken of his "space dream" as part of a broader vision for China to become a comprehensive superpower.

In a congratulatory statement, Xi hailed the mission as a "remarkable feat" that would be remembered by the Chinese people.

China's space budget, while not publicly available, is estimated by the Space Foundation nonprofit organization to be the world's second-largest at more than \$8 billion a year, compared with NASA's \$22 billion. U.S. and Russian funding for their space programs has fallen relative to their national budgets since the space race of the 1960s. Last year, China became the first country to land a rover on the far - or "dark" side of the moon, a technical challenge that required the use a dedicated lunar satellite to relay signals to Earth.

Tampa Bay Times, Dec. 20, 2020

# China's Mars rover touches ground on red planet

#### BEIJING

China's first Mars rover has driven down from its landing platform and is now roaming the surface of the red planet, China's space administration said Saturday.

The solar-powered rover touched Martian soil at 10:40 a.m. Saturday Beijing time, the China National Space Administration said.

China landed the spacecraft carrying the rover on Mars last Saturday, a technically challenging feat more difficult than a moon landing, in a first for the country. It is the second country to land and operate a spacecraft on Mars, after the United States.

Named after the Chinese god of fire, Zhurong, the rover has been running diagnostics tests for several days before it began its exploration. It is expected to spend 90 days in a search of evidence of life. – ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Miami Herald, May 23, 2021

# China's space station has its first inhabitants after launch

#### BY SAM MCNEIL Associated Press

JIUQUAN, China — A Chinese spaceship carrying a three-person crew docked with China's new space station at the start of a three-month mission Thursday, marking a milestone in the country's ambitious space program.

The *Shenzhou-12* craft connected with the *Tianhe* space station module about six hours after takeoff from the Jiuquan launch center on the edge of the Gobi Desert.

The three astronauts are the first to take up residency in the main living module and will carry out experiments, test equipment, conduct maintenance and prepare the station for receiving two laboratory modules next year.

The mission brings to 14 the number of astronauts China has launched into space since 2003, becoming only the third country after the former Soviet Union and the United States to do so on its own.

The astronauts were seen off by space officials, other uniformed military personnel and a crowd of children waving flowers and flags and singing patriotic songs.

The rocket dropped its boosters about two minutes into the flight



NG HAN GUAN | Associated Press

Chinese astronauts, from left, Tang Hongbo, Nie Haisheng and Liu Boming wave as they prepare to board for liftoff at the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in northwestern China on Thursday.

followed by the cowling surrounding *Shenzhou-12* at the top of the rocket. After about 10 minutes it separated from the rocket's upper section, extended its solar panels and shortly afterward entered orbit.

About a half-dozen adjustments took place over the following six hours to line up the spaceship for docking with the *Tianhe*, or *Heavenly Harmony*, module at about 4 p.m.

China is not a participant in the International Space Station, largely as a result of U.S. objections to the secrecy and close military ties of Chinese programs. However, China has been stepping up cooperation with Russia and a host of other countries, and its station may continue operating beyond the International Space Station, which is reaching the end of its functional life.

China landed a probe on Mars last month that carried a rover, the *Zhurong*, and earlier landed a probe and rover on the moon's less explored far side and brought back the first lunar samples by any country's space program since the 1970s.

Tampa Bay Times, June 18, 2021

# **Space launches soar**

#### Florida hopes to capture a piece of growing intercosmic economy.

#### BY JIM TURNER News Service of Florida

TALLAHASSEE — Space Coast residents had a chance to wake up Thursday to the 18th orbital launch of the year from Cape Canaveral, as a SpaceX Falcon 9 topped with 53 Starlink internet satellites lifted off just before sunrise.

With at least five more launches expected this month, Space Florida President and CEO Frank DiBello said Wednesday that local launch facilities might handle more than 40 additional launches before the end of 2022 from private companies, NASA and U.S. Space Force.

"We're likely to see 60, 61, 62 launches this year," DiBello said during a conference call with the Space Florida Board of Directors.

"That, to me, is really significant in terms of the investments that we've made over time, thanks to the board and to our partnership with (the Florida Department of Transportation) and to the support that we've had from the legislature to investing in infrastructure that supports the increased capability that we have," DiBello added.

Hours before Thursday's launch, SpaceX's Dragon Endurance spacecraft, carrying three NASA astronauts and a European Space Agency mission specialist, splashed down in the Gulf of Mexico off Tampa Bay. The Dragon's return wrapped up a 176-day expedition to the International Space Station that began with one of the 31 rockets that reached orbit from Cape Canaveral Space Force Station and NASA's neighboring Kennedy Space Center in 2021.

Since the start of 2022, launches from licensed sites tied to Space Florida, the state's aerospace-arm, have put about 250 tons of equipment and supplies into space. Last year, Space Florida facilities accounted for about 370 tons of materials put into space, including 1,730 satellites.

"We could conceivably in the first four months of this year — having done 250 (tons) — we could easily see 550 to 600 tons to orbit this year, which is a big boost in our lift capacity," DiBello said.

Meanwhile, with nearly 700 satellites launched so far this year, including the 53 that went up Thursday, DiBello said the cape is ahead of the 2021 pace, which ended 30 percent higher than in 2020.

"We see a decade where between (50,000) and 100,000 satellites are going to be launched by 2030," DiBello said. "And, we want to try to capture a lion's share of those out of Florida. Again, what's driv-

ing the growth in the industry is our insatiable demand for bandwidth that all of us have. We feed that market regardless of the device that we're using."

Space Florida is also looking to focus on capturing a piece of an emerging market that services the space economy by developing the capabilities to send robots and people into space to extend satellite life, move crews, conduct research and manufacturing and undertake the removal of space debris.

"We're really looking at this industry," DiBello said. "Forecasts are for this to be between \$15 (billion) and \$20 billion (in economic impact) by the end of the decade. And that's not insignificant."

Among the more anticipated launches this year is the uncrewed Artemis I, now expected in August, which would mark the first integrated test of NASA's deepspace exploration systems: the Orion spacecraft, Space Launch System rocket and the ground systems at Kennedy Space Center. Orion is planned to travel 280,000 miles from Earth, beyond the orbit of the Moon.

Also in August, the Psyche asteroid explorer is expected to be sent to a region between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter aboard a SpaceX Falcon Heavy rocket.

Tampa Bay Times, May 7, 2022

# UF researchers grow plants from moon soil

Their history-making findings could advance space exploration by helping to sustain longer human stays.

#### BY DIVYA KUMAR Times Staff Writer

In a groundbreaking study published Thursday, researchers at the University of Florida have found that plants can grow in moon soil.

The study is the result of more than a decade of experiments, which led to NASA loaning UF the lunar regolith, or moon soil, collected during the Apollo 11, 12 and 17 missions. The researchers received four 1-gram amounts – about a teaspoon – from each mission after their 2019 proposal was approved, but previously spent years perfecting how to successfully grow plants in a tiny amount of soil.

Anna-Lisa Paul and Rob Ferl, whose past experiments have traveled aboard Richard Branson's spaceship, worked with UF geology professor Stephen Elardo in planting Arabidopsis plants in the lunar regolith last year.

The small flowering plants,



TYLER JONES | University of Florida

belonging to the mustard family, are commonly used in labs, favored because they grow and respond to their environment in the same way as many crop plants, according to the National Science Foundation. They also have a wellmapped gene pattern, a UF news release said.

By the second day of the experiment, everything was germinat-See SOIL, 10A UF researchers Rob Ferl and Anna-Lisa Paul look at plates containing plants grown in samples of soil collected from the moon during three Apollo spacecraft missions.



The plants on the left were grown in soil simulating soil found on the moon, while those on the right were grown in actual lunar soil.

TYLER JONES | University of Florida

## SOIL continued from 1A

ing, Paul said in an interview.

"It was awe-inspiring," she said.

Ferl said he remembered thinking, "Holy cow!" when he witnessed what had never been seen before.

"Was it surprising?" he said. "I don't know. Does it affect the brain and heart and spirit? Definitely."

The researchers also grew the same plants in soil from extreme environments, as well as soils designed to mimic lunar soil and soil from Mars.

Paul said the plants grown in actual lunar soil were smaller, and the study found that the plants appeared to struggle most with soil collected during the Apollo 11 mission in 1969 and least in the samples taken by the Apollo 17 crew in 1972. Further studies would need to be done to determine if the maturity of the soil would impact that success of the plants.

What the study did show, Paul said, was that plants were capable of reaching into their "metabolic toolboxes" to activate different ways to respond to stressors.

"They can grow, but they don't like it," she said. "They turn on different genes to physically adapt to their environments."

Paul and Ferl are professors of horticultural sciences in the UF Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences. Their findings, reached in concert with the geology professor Elardo, were published in the journal *Communications Biology*.

The plants' ability to grow in moon soil could

advance space exploration by helping to sustain longer human stays. While previous experiments have found that plants could grow in simulated moon soils, the study is the first of its kind using the actual material.

"The commitment by NASA is a really powerful statement not only about the interest, but the need to have us there as colonists and not just visitors," Ferl said.

Paul said transporting plants for sustaining life has a long history, from the time of the ancient Polynesians who introduced crops to Hawaii.

"Humans are explorers," she said. "Plants are what enable us to be explorers."

Contact Divya Kumar at dkumar@tampabay.com or 727-893-8806. Follow @divyadivyadivya.

Tampa Bay Times, May 13, 2022



Roscosmos State Space Corporation via Associated Press

The Soyuz-2.1b rocket with the moon lander Luna-25 automatic station takes off from the Vostochny Cosmodrome in Russia's Far East on Friday. The launch of the Luna-25 craft to the moon is Russia's first since 1976.

## **Russia launches moon mission**

BY ADELA SULIMAN AND NATALIA ABBAKUMOVA The Washington Post

Russia launched a spacecraft Friday that is headed to the moon - its first attempt since 1976, around when the Soviet Union and United States were in deep competition for space dominance during the Cold War.

Moscow is now hoping to make history, in a race to be the first country to make a soft landing on the moon's

#### icy south pole.

The uncrewed spacecraft, known as Luna-25, took off in the country's southeast at 2:11 a.m. local time, according to Russia's space agency, Roscosmos.

It will take just over five days for the vessel to travel to the moon's vicinity, Roscosmos said. Then it will spend several days orbiting before attempting the soft landing on the lunar surface, north of the Boguslawsky crater, on Aug. 21, the agency said.

The timetable pits Russia in a race against India, which launched a similar mission — the Chandrayaan-3 lunar lander last month and is aiming to soft-land by Aug. 23.

"We hope to be first," Roscosmos chief Yuri Borisov reportedly said at the launch.

The move thrusts Moscow into the rare and coveted geopolitical space of advanced lunar exploration, as it aims to join the United States and China in this expression of global power. Attempts by Japan and Israel have failed in recent years.

The moonshot, which Russia has been planning for decades, comes at a time when the Kremlin is facing international economic sanctions and a pariah status among much of the Western world for its invasion of neighboring Ukraine.

Tampa Bay Times, Aug. 12, 2023



EUGENE HOSHIKO | Associated Press

Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency staff watch a livestream of the pinpoint moon landing by the Smart Lander for Investigating Moon — or SLIM — early today.

# Japan becomes the 5th country to land a spacecraft on the moon

#### BY MARI YAMAGUCHI Associated Press

TOKYO — Japan became the fifth country in history to reach the moon when one of its spacecraft without astronauts successfully made a soft landing on the lunar surface early today.

However, space officials said they need more time to analyze whether the Smart Lander for Investigating Moon, or SLIM, achieved its mission priority of making a pinpoint landing. They also said the craft's solar panel had failed to generate power, which could shorten its activity on the moon.

Space officials believe the SLIM's small rovers were launched as planned and that data was being transmitted back to Earth, said Hitoshi Kuninaka, head of the Institute of Space and Astronautical Science, a unit of Japan's space agency.

But he said that SLIM's solar battery wasn't generating power and that it had only a few more hours of battery life. He said that the priority now was for the craft to gather as much data about its landing and the moon as possible on the remaining battery power.

Japan follows the United States, the Soviet Union, China and India in reaching the moon.

Kuninaka said he believes that Japan's space program at least achieved "minimum" success.

SLIM landed on the moon at about 12:20 a.m. Tokyo time today.

There was a tense wait for news after the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency's mission control initially said that SLIM was on the lunar surface, but that it was still "checking its status." No further details were given until a news conference nearly two hours later.

For the mission to be considered fully successful, space officials need to confirm whether SLIM made a pinpoint landing. Kuninaka said that while more time is needed, he personally thinks it was most likely achieved, based on his observation of data showing the spacecraft's movement until the landing and its ability to transmit signals after landing.

SLIM, which was aiming to hit a very small target, is lightweight and about the size of a passenger vehicle. It was using "pinpoint landing" technology that promises far greater control than any previous moon landing.

While most previous probes have used landing zones about 6 miles wide, SLIM was aiming at a target of just 330 feet.

A landing of such precision would be a world's first, and would be crucial technology for a sustainable, long-term and accurate space probe system, said Hiroshi Yamakawa, president of the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency, or JAXA.

Tampa Bay Times, Jan. 20, 2024

#### A vaccine to live in space? What's happening in a Florida lab may help earthlings, too

BY MICHELLE MARCHANTE mmarchante@miamiherald.com

Traveling by plane isn't always easy on the body. And neither is space travel.

Astronauts often experience atrophy, the loss of bone and muscle, during their months living in space's zero gravity. People on Earth also tend to see their bones and muscles weaken as they age, increasing risk of injuries from falls.

Companies like Elon Musk's SpaceX and Miamian Jeff Bezos' Blue Origin are working to open space travel for more people.

And figuring out how to reduce atrophy — a condition that affects space explorers as well as senior citizens on Earth is on the mind of scientists.

At the University of Central Florida in Orlando, researchers have received state funding to collaborate with biotech company Vaxxinity, which moved its headquarters from Texas to Cape Canaveral in Florida last year, to develop vaccines that can prevent and mitigate muscle and bone weakening, a common health problem for people experiencing longterm spaceflight -- and aging seniors.

The funding for space medicine research is in line with UCF's roots the public university opened in 1968 to support the U.S. growing space program — and will help researchers develop studies to assess the effects of Vaxxinity's immunotherapies on proteins in the body that could affect bone and muscle growth.

The goal? Create a vaccine that can help reduce muscle loss or help regain it in case of injury, immobility or space travel. This vaccine could help people on Earth and in space live a better and healthier life as they age, according to Dr. Melanie Coathup and Dr. Michal Masternak, professors who work in UCF's College of Medicine and involved in the collaboration.

If all goes well, human clinical trials for the vaccines could begin as early as 2025, said Lou Reese, co-founder and executive chairman of Vaxxinity, who is also a self-proclaimed "space dork."

"UCF was born as a university to support the space program, and the College of Medicine is continuing that mission, working to bring back to Earth the secrets that space medicine research can reveal," Dr. Deborah German, vice president for health affairs and dean of UCF's College of Medicine, said in a statement. "We look forward to collaborating with Vaxxinity on this research and applying their unique technology to benefit the aging population on our planet and future space travelers.'

READ NEXT: Want to live to 100 or older? Experts in Miami suggest taking these five steps now

#### THE FUTURE OF AGING IN U.S. AND FLORIDA

Research into how people can live longer and healthier lives as they age is becoming more important in the U.S., which is expected to see its population of people 85 and older triple by 2060.

Healthy aging research is also key to Florida's future, which has more than 5.5 million residents 60 and older, outnumbering the senior population of 20 other states combined, according to Florida's Department of Elder Affairs. Florida is second to California in people 60 and older. By 2045, Florida is projected to have more than 8.4 million older adults, or over 30% of the state's population, according to the department's 2022-2025 state plan on aging.

It's not surprising that a vaccine to help astronauts and seniors drew Florida's interest.

Besides Florida's large population of aging seniors, the Sunshine State also has a tourism-driven economy, which includes Mickey Mouse, beaches, and space. Florida is home to NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, which every year sees more than 1.5 million visitors. People visit the center to learn more about space exploration, and if they're lucky, see a rocket launch, too.

On Thursday afternoon, SpaceX launched a private astronaut mission from Cape Canaveral to the International Space Station. The mission is the third one organized by Houston company Axiom Space, and carried Axiom's first all-European crew, including Turkey's first astronaut Alper Gezeravci, Space-.com reported.

READ MORE: Why do some people get Alzheimer's and others don't? How a new UM tool checks your risk

#### HOW DOES SPACE AFFECT THE HEALTH OF ASTRONAUTS?

A vaccine to help stop or reduce the deterioration of bone and muscle could also help further space exploration, too.

"It opens up a whole new opportunity for thinking and trying to work out what solutions can come from this ... and trying to learn as well because what happens in that extreme environment [space] is so differ-

ent to what happens in Earth," Coathup said. "We mentioned deep

space exploration to Mars and a lot of people think, 'Oh, it's not possible.' Well you know, at the moment, I guess it isn't. But for me, there's an excitement to actually make that possible. What can we do? What are the barriers? And how can we potentially get through them?"

NASA is planning to send astronauts back to the moon, a mission planned for 2025. And if the U.S. wants to do longer space missions, such as to Mars, finding ways to reduce bone and muscle deterioration will be key in reducing some of the health strains of space, Masternak said.

"There's a lot of excitement from many people working in this sector in order to develop new discoveries that will push health for astronauts but also like we're saying we'll be able to deliver new discoveries for people on earth as well," Coathup said.

**READ NEXT:** Her work has 'gone beyond the sky.' Here's how this Miami woman made it to NASA

Astronauts exercise for an average of two hours a day to reduce the bone and muscle deterioration caused by zero gravity, according to NASA. Without the exercise, the space agency says astronauts wouldn't be able to walk or stand up when they return to Earth months later.

A recent 2022 study of bone loss in 17 astronauts who flew aboard the International Space Station, with missions ranging from four to seven months, found that the astronauts experienced "significant bone loss" during six-month spaceflights. The astronauts exhibited 2.1% reduced bone mineral density in the tibia, one of the bones of the lower leg, and 1.3% reduced bone strength, according to Reuters.

The loss is what "we would expect to see in older adults over two decades on Earth, and they only recovered about half of that loss after one year back on Earth, University of Calgary professor Leigh Gabel, the lead author of the research published in the journal Scientific Reports, told Reuters. Nine of the astronauts didn't recover bone mineral density a year after their flight.

"Putting humans into this extreme environment [of space], it shows the kind of weak points of our body and by studying this we can also apply it to humans living on Earth," Masternak said. 'So this combination of better understanding what's happening there can give us much quicker answers to some problems that we are getting here on Earth with our everyday living."

#### THE FUTURE

Reese, Vaxxinity's executive chairman, said the company wants to help "humanity prepare for the next millennia," and that this vaccine research is just part of the puzzle.

"If humanity is to become a spacefaring species, solving fundamental problems related to space travel and living are table-stakes," Reese said.

"Vaxxinity is all-in on developing and commercializing these solutions, and working with the State of Florida and UCF, collectively, we strive to promote both healthy aging and ensure humanity can become multiplanetary, brave low gravity exposure, and be of the stars," Reese said. "The support for this research from the State of Florida exemplifies a commitment to pioneering solutions in the fields of space travel, as well as longevity and age-related diseases.

Michelle Marchante: 305-376-2708, @TweetMichelleM

The Bradenton Herald, Jan. 21, 2024

# **SPACE RACE**

Musk's rocket complex ignites local economy in South Texas, but change comes at a cost

#### Rick Jervis

BOCA CHICA, Texas – To Gilberto Salinas, the gleaming glass-and-steel building with the "SPACEX" sign emblazoned across its top stretching along State Highway 4 represents a portal into the future – a doorway to deepspace exploration just a few miles from his home.

Just down the road, workers mill in and out of the launch pad area where SpaceX founder Elon Musk and his team propel 5,000-ton rockets into outer space and from where the tycoon hopes to someday send humans to Mars.

"I still get goosebumps when I see those rockets launching," said Salinas, chief executive of Brownsville's economic development arm. "The future of deep-space exploration is happening here in our backyard."

To date, SpaceX has generated more than \$800 million in direct and indirect taxes to local and state governments, drawn more than \$99 million in tourism to the region and created more than 3,400 jobs for employees and contractors, according to figures SpaceX provided to Cameron County.

But for Nansi Guevara, a visual artist in Brownsville, Texas, the rocket-making complex is an irrevocable disruption to the shorebirds, ocelots and endangered Kemp's ridley sea turtles that nest in the Rio Grande delta. It's also the reason rents and property taxes are on a steep rise, she said, and why skilled workers from California and Florida are descending upon South Texas to fill high-paying jobs once promised to locals.

"More and more people are questioning it," said Guevara, an activist who has opposed SpaceX.

Musk, the richest man in the world, has poured more than \$3 billion into the ever-expanding rocket-producing venture of SpaceX, perched in a river delta about 22 miles east of Brownsville. Space travel enthusiasts have applauded his ambitious plans to launch rockets into outer space with the stated goal of some day placing a man on Mars. Locally, support – if not outright en-

Locally, support – if not outright enthusiasm – for SpaceX remains strong and widespread, though some like Guevara question just how much the venture has benefited locals and warn of harmful environmental impacts.

SpaceX's media relations officials re-



Elon Musk gives President-elect Donald Trump an others a tour of the SpaceX control room on Nov. 19. Musk, a Trump confidante, has been tapped to lead the new Department of Government Efficiency alongside former presidential candidate Vivek Ramaswamy. BRANDON BELL/GETTY IMAGES FILE

ferred USA TODAY to their website for details on how they mitigate environmental concerns, where the company claims the list of measures it takes "just for operations in Texas is over two hundred items long, including constant monitoring and sampling of the short and long-term health of local flora and fauna."

The company also partners with Sea Turtle, Inc., a local nonprofit focused on sea turtle conservation, and deploys workers to pick up litter around Boca Chica, according to the website.

"SpaceX is committed to minimizing impact and enhancing the surrounding environment where possible," it said.

So far, the team at SpaceX has launched its biggest and most powerful rocket, Starship, six times, the latest one occurring last month. Musk has requested approval to ramp up operations to 25 launches a year and said he plans to move his entire rocket-building operation from California to South Texas.

Environmentalists and watchdog groups worry that Musk and others in the spaceflight sector may soon have freer rein when President-elect Donald Trump takes office in January; Trump has said he will appoint Musk to the "Department of Government Efficiency," an advisory group mandated with downsizing government.

Musk, who spent more than \$750 million to help Trump get re-elected, is now tasked with reducing government – even as he's amassed billions of dollars in federal contracts and has faced scrutiny from federal agencies as chief executive of various ventures.

How that close relationship with the federal government plays out in South Texas remains to be seen.

"They've already been getting away with doing whatever they want and causing environmental damage to our community," said Bekah Hinojosa, cofounder of the South Texas Environmental Justice Network. "Now, we're just worried it's going to exacerbate and get worse."

#### Launch day celebrations attract swarms of space enthusiasts

To reach the SpaceX complex, visitors drive east from Brownsville along Highway 4 toward the beaches, on a road that runs roughly parallel to the Rio Grande.

A decade ago, the area was desolate tidal flats dotted with sabal palms and Spanish dagger yucca.

Today, two futuristic-looking office towers and a soaring black-glass building comprise Starbase – 220,000 square feet of buildings spread over 350 acres. This is where SpaceX staffers design and build the rockets and control their launch.

About a quarter mile down the road, two soaring launch towers – one for each launch pad – sit sentry on SpaceX's launch site, as workers mill around.

For Barton "Bic" Bickerton, 55, owner of the Hopper Haus Bar & Grill in nearby Port Isabel, Texas, the real magic happens during each launch, when his small establishment crams with space enthusiasts from around the world and SpaceX employees.

On those days, the bar, which has the word "BARBASE" painted on an outside wall and serves "Cosmic Coco" and "Lucky Launch" draft beer, opens early to accommodate enthusiasts watching the early morning launch. SpaceX employees celebrate at the bar with shots of Jameson. Visitors from Norway, Russia, Germany, South Africa and other countries fill the bar and spill out outside, toasting to space exploration or dissecting the science behind the latest launch.

"It's really pretty cool," Bickerton said.

Business has grown 40% since opening in 2021, said Bickerton, a former high school baseball coach. He's building a larger dining room adjacent to the bar and a backyard patio to accommodate the ever-growing crowds during launches.

"Business wise, it's been unbelievable," he said.

Dean Putegnat, co-owner of Redfish Recycling in Brownsville, quickly saw an opportunity to service Starbase's sprawling complex and all the recyclable refuse it produces. His company collects 14 commercial containers and 70 residential containers from the space explorers a few times a week, "about the size of a mini-municipality," he said.

What he didn't foresee was the influx of people from California, Austin and other areas who readily signed up for residential recycling service – and who are steadily pushing parts of the border into a more recycling-friendly area. As a result, the residential recycling segment of his business is rapidly growing, said Putegnat, 51.

Given the sudden interest, a city proposal to bring curbside recycling to Brownsville could pass through city council next month, making recycling even more widespread, Putegnat said.

"More houses want recycling, more convenience stores need a recycling container, more restaurants need recycling," he said. "SpaceX definitely has a lot to do with the indirect growth we've had."

#### Rising rents, indigenous tribe restrictions hinder some locals

But with growth comes growing pains. Some locals point to rising rents, as out-of-towners move in to fill SpaceX jobs.

Christopher Basaldú, an anthropologist and environmentalist, said he was forced to vacate his Brownsville apartment in late 2021 when the owners sold the building. He's now living in a smaller apartment with fewer amenities at a higher monthly rent, he said.

More concerning to Basaldú is the way SpaceX's operations have threatened habitats near the launch site and, by closing the only access road to the beach during tests and launches, limit

See SPACE , Page 10C

#### Space

Continued from Page 9C

the Carrizo/Comecrudo Tribe of Texas' access to Boca Chica Beach, which the tribe considers to be its historical and spiritual center. SpaceX closes the only access road to the beach several hundred hours a year during tests and launches.

During certain cycles of their native calendar, members of the tribe venture to the beach and place offerings and prayers – practices Basaldú said are hampered by SpaceX.

"We can't participate in traditions that have been happening for many thousands of years," said Basaldú, who is a member of the tribe. "In the course of just a few years, this foreigner billionaire has stopped that from happening."

Last year, environmental and cultural groups, including the Carrizo/Comecrudo tribe, filed a lawsuit in federal court against the Federal Aviation Administration, claiming the agency failed to fully assess Starbase's impact on the surrounding area. The FAA has denied the claims.

For years, the Tesla and SpaceX CEO has bristled at what he sees as government overreach in his space ventures – something he may have greater control over given his future position in the Trump administration.

Scott Amey, general counsel for the Project on Government Oversight, a Washington-based watchdog group, said Musk's role in the upcoming administration presents two potential conflicts of interest: steering federal contracts toward his companies or watering down agencies that monitor his businesses, such as the FAA or the Securities and Exchange Commission.

"There are quite a few ethics and conflict of interest laws that will apply to him," Amey said. "It will take a lot of self-policing as well as a strong ethics officer to make sure he doesn't cross the line."

Earlier this year, the FAA fined SpaceX more than \$633,000 for reportedly not following regulations during two launches in 2023. In a post on X following the penalties' announcement, Musk threatened to sue the federal agency.

"The biggest impediment to progress that we're experiencing is overregulation," Musk said earlier this year. "It takes longer to get the permit to launch than to build a giant rocket."

SpaceX officials have agreed to take steps to mitigate the company's impact on the surrounding environment. But recent events, such as the April 2023 explosion of a booster of the Starship rocket that sent debris flying in all directions and rattled homes several miles away, continue to alarm environmentalists and locals.

#### Rocket and other debris could be 'completely habitat-altering'

On a recent afternoon, Justin LeClaire, an avian



Barton "Bic" Bickerton, 55, owner of the Hopper Haus Bar & Grill in Port Isabel, Texas, gets a packed house on launch days. "Business-wise, it's been unbelievable," he says. PHOTOS BY ANGELA PIAZZA/CORPUS CHRISTI CALLER-TIMES



Elon Musk's SpaceX complex in Boca Chica, Texas, encompasses 220,000 square feet of buildings spread over 350 acres of Rio Grande delta, about 22 miles east of Brownsville.

conservation biologist with the environmental advocacy group Coastal Bend Bays and Estuaries, plodded through the sand dunes just north of the launch sites, looking for signs of the snowy plover, Wilson's plover and least tern – all shorebirds protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

Instead, LeClaire pointed to a large chunk of concrete with a tangle of rebar sticking out of it, like a giant spider, wedged in the sand – a relic from last

year's explosion. Nearby, smaller chunks of debris – like bowling balls – dotted the sand.

Last June, his group surveyed nine shorebird nests the day before a Starship launch. The next day, they returned and tallied the impact: Out of 22 eggs that were in the nine nests, only five survived the launch intact – all other eggs were missing or deemed too damaged to be viable, according to the group.

The launches and occasional explosion, along with the steep increase in human traffic and the trash they bring, is wreaking irrevocable harm on the surrounding habitat, LeClaire said.

"All of these things combined could really be completely habitat-altering for the Boca Chica area as a whole," he said.

Guevera, the artist, said when she first moved to Brownsville from Laredo, Texas, eight years ago, she visited Boca Chica beach and ventured down to where the Rio Grande empties into the Gulf of Mexico. There, she took off her shoes and stepped into the river.

Across the river, Mexican families splashed along the shoreline.

She felt a deep connection with the region and the historic river that has separated the U.S. from her ancestral homeland of Mexico for nearly two centuries.

Guevara said she's dismayed that her access to that area is now restricted and bristles at the thought of Starbase slowly desecrating the area – all in the name of sending rockets into space.

"My quality of life here is good because of nature," she said. "If we don't have nature, what do we have?"

#### Pensacola News Journal, Dec. 29, 2024

# 2025 space missions



SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket on Starlink Mission 6-58 launches another batch of Starlink satellites into orbit on May 12 from Launch Complex 40 at Cape Canaveral Space Force Station reflecting Florida's record-breaking launch cadence. MALCOLM DENEMARK/FLORIDA TODAY

### What Florida can expect in space in the new year

Brooke Edwards Florida Today | USA TODAY NETWORK

s 2024 came to an end, it was evident that as impressive as it was, this was a year in space exploration which was set to be outdone. • A record-breaking launch cadence from Cape Canaveral. SpaceX catching a Starship Super Heavy booster in Texas. The first spacewalk by a private company. A mission to Europa. The troubled Starliner crewed flight that had to return without its astronauts. And Blue Origin's New Glenn rocket making progress. 2024 was an eventful year in space exploration. • However, the upcoming year has many ground-breaking missions already on tap. Here's some of what we can expect to see in space exploration in 2025. See SPACE, Page 3A

On Sept. 12, Jared Isaacman exits the Dragon spacecraft on the first ever SpaceX spacewalk. Image from SpaceX live stream. PROVIDED BY SPACEX



SpaceX's Starship is not just a vital tool for SpaceX's ambitious plan of reaching Mars, but has been contracted by NASA to land humans on the lunar surface during the Artemis III mission in 2027.

### Space

Continued from Page 1A

#### **Increased Florida launch cadence**

With SpaceX continuously launching Falcon 9 rockets on Starlink and customer satellite deliveries and NASA missions – add in United Launch Alliance (ULA) launching the occasional Department of Defense mission, too – the Space Coast launch cadence has been rising over the past few years.

While 2023 saw a whopping 73 launches, 2024 shattered that record with more than 90 launches – even amidst two Falcon 9 Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) groundings.

As of Friday, Dec. 27 the Space Coast had counted 91 launches.

With SpaceX continuing their Starlink internet constellation, and other launch providers such as Blue Origin starting launches from the Space Coast, 2025 could be a year where the launch record is again easily broken and then some.

#### Jared Isaacman as NASA Administrator

Jared Isaacman was recently nominated by President-elect Donald Trump to serve as the upcoming NASA administrator. If appointed, Isaacman will replace current administrator, Bill Nelson.

Isaacman founded financial company, Shift4, commanded the SpaceX Inspiration4 and Polaris Dawn missions, and conducted the first-ever spacewalk by a private company. He is expected to bring big changes to NASA. Experts are keeping an eye on Artemis – NASA's much-delayed and hugely expensive return-to-the-moon mission – to see if Isaacman rethinks this program.

Artemis II, the mission that will take astronauts around the moon, is now set for no earlier than 2026, with the Artemis III moon landing targeting no earlier than 2027. These dates were pushed back after NASA investigated the cracking of the Orion spacecraft's heatshield during the uncrewed Artemis I mission in 2022.

SpaceX's Starship must also be ready to meet that 2027 deadline, as it will be utilized to land the Artemis III astronauts on the lunar surface.

A question has repeatedly come up: could SpaceX's Starship replace the giant Space Launch System rocket that NASA plans to carry Orion to the moon?

### Starship progress toward coming to KSC

Locally, this coming year will bring answers to the outcome of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and Space Force environmental reviews required ahead of the proposed Starship launches from Kennedy Space Center Pad 39A, where a Starship tower already stands.

The reviews collected input from citizens and looked at the possible impacts to surrounding infrastructure, ecosystem and wildlife.

Meanwhile, an undisclosed \$1.8 billion heavy-lift rocket infrastructure project is set to start in January. The project, known as Project Hinton, is fore-



SpaceX caught the Super Heavy booster for the first time on October 13. It sits in the Mechazilla arms on the launch pad post landing. This could be a scene in the near-future at Cape Canaveral. PROVIDED BY SPACEX



Jared Isaacman was recently nominated as the new NASA Administrator. CRAIG BAILEY/FLORIDA TODAY

cast to create 600 local jobs with average annual wages of \$93,000.

While the company behind the project remains disclosed, SpaceX's Starship could be a strong contender. The results of the Space Force and FAA environmental impact studies are to be released in 2025.

SpaceX's Starship is not just a vital tool for SpaceX's ambitious plan of reaching Mars, but has been contracted by NASA to land humans on the lunar surface during the Artemis III mission in 2027.

For now, SpaceX continues testing and improving Starship in Boca Chica, Texas. Flight 7 is anticipated in January, and the company plans eventually to be able to reuse both the booster and spacecraft. The reusability would drastically cut down on the cost of launching. It remains to be seen how far Starship development will come in 2025.

#### Blue Origin launch and NASA's Escapde

Blue Origin is aiming for a debut launch of their orbital New Glenn rocket by the end of the year. Assuming all goes well with the inaugural test flight, plans call for it to launch satellites, such Amazon's Kuiper internet constellation of 3,232 satellites, as well as NASA's ESCA-PADE mission to Mars no earlier than Spring of 2025.

This is Blue Origin's entry into the heavy-lift market, and could position The IM-2 lander will head for a landing on the lunar south pole, using a drill and mass spectrometer to look at the makeup of the moon's subsurface. While we do not know what IM-2 will find, it is suspected that there is water ice present on the moon's poles.

the company as a competitor to SpaceX on multiple fronts. Blue Origin was founded by former CEO, Jeff Bezos.

ESCAPDE stands for Escape and Plasma Acceleration and Dynamics Explorers. It will be a NASA science mission to study the magnetosphere of Mars, which is the magnetic layer that protects the planet from solar particles. Two identical orbiting spacecraft will observe how the magnetosphere interacts with solar wind.

#### Axiom-4

Axiom Space will continue with their private astronaut missions to the International Space Station (ISS). Launched from Kennedy Space Center or Cape Canaveral on a SpaceX Dragon, four astronauts will travel to the ISS on a science mission. This will be the fourth astronaut mission for the company.

Headquartered in Houston, Texas, Axiom Space is planning to build a space station which will attach to the ISS. This will allow for NASA to transition over before the 2030 deadline, when SpaceX is contracted to deorbit the aging ISS. The company is currently sending crews to the ISS as part of the development of the new space station.

#### Vast Space Station

Headquartered in Long Beach, California, Vast Space is also planning to build a next generation space station. According to Vast, this is anticipated for no earlier than 2025 with the launch of Haven-1. Haven-1 will be able to support a crew of four private or government astronauts.

The next moduel, Haven-2, will be connected and the larger space station operational by approximately 2028. Vast plans for the completion of the nine-module station by 2032.

Vast's website states: "Vast is devel-

oping humanity's most capable space stations, pioneering the next giant leap toward long-term living and thriving in space."

Just recently, Vast tapped SpaceX to launch two private astronaut missions to the ISS. This is similar to Axiom's private missions to the ISS.

#### IM-2/Lunar Trailblazer

This mission will follow the Intuitive Machines-1 (IM-1) mission, which launched to the moon in early 2024, but tipped upon landing. While things didn't go quite as planned, the mission was the first successful lunar landing of a spacecraft built by a private company.

a spaceraft built by a private company. The IM-2 lander will head for a landing on the lunar south pole, using a drill and mass spectrometer to look at the makeup of the moon's subsurface. In simple terms, the mass spectrometer reveals what element is present by determining the mass of a molecule after converting it to a gas. NASA plans to send Artemis astronauts to the lunar south pole. While we do not know what IM-2 will find, it is suspected that there is water ice present on the moon's poles.

The IM-2 mission will carry with it NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory's (JPL) Lunar Trailblazer, which is a small orbiter that will look for the location and forms of water on the moon.

This mission is currently set for no earlier than early 2025.

#### Blue Ghost headed to moon

Firefly Aerospace is also set to provide a lunar lander which will carry 10 NASA payloads no earlier than January 2025. According to NASA, some of the investigations being conducted by Blue Ghost payloads include:

Heat flow from the lunar interior
 Plume-surface interactions on lu-

nar surface - how the rocket exhaust im-

Electric and magnetic fields

• Sampling of the rocky material

found on the moon, known as regolith • Global Navigation Satellite System abilities

 Radiation tolerant computing – how cosmic radiation impacts instruments

• Impact of lunar dust on instruments

• Taking X-ray images of the Earth's magnetosphere

#### FRAM2 mission

SpaceX has plans for an upcoming private astronaut mission like no other. The FRAM2 mission will take four explorers on a mission to orbit the poles an orbit never before traveled by astronauts. Instead of the typical orbit, the FRAM2 crew will orbit from pole to pole. The three to five day mission is set for no earlier than Spring 2025, and will launch from Florida on a SpaceX Dragon.

The crew is led by entrepreneur and polar explorer Chun Wang. Also on the mission are: filmmaker Jannicke Mikkelsen, polar explorer Eric Philips, and engineer/polar scientist Rabea Rogge.

Brooke Edwards is a Space Reporter for Florida Today. Contact her at bedwards@floridatoday.com or on X: @brookeofstars.

Florida Today, Jan. 2, 2025

Space4All Teacher Guide Page 74 of 196

## Starliner astronauts discuss ISS stay

#### Extended deployments on station 'not unusual'

#### Eric Lagatta

USA TODAY

Suni Williams and Butch Wilmore, the two NASA astronauts who rode into space months ago on a Boeing Starliner spacecraft, aren't spending their days pining to return to Earth.

The saga of the two spacefarers has garnered no shortage of publicity since June, when Williams and Wilmore first arrived at the International Space Station for the Starliner's maiden crewed voyage.

NASA decided that the troubled spacecraft wasn't up to the task of reliably transporting them back to Earth, and so the Starliner undocked in September without them, landing in the New Mexico desert. Many have referred to the astronauts as being "stuck" or "stranded." President Donald Trump this week said they'd been "abandoned."

But the astronauts themselves don't seem preoccupied with thoughts of leaving their celestial digs. In an exclusive interview Tuesday with USA TO-DAY, both said their focus has been on conducting science experiments, participating in space walks and soaking in as many sunset views of Earth as possible.

"We're here, we try to focus on the now, what's taking place here, the important work that's going on, because it requires that," Wilmore said. "I try not to long for anything I don't have now and just fret over it – there's no benefit to that."

Williams and Wilmore were among four American astronauts currently aboard the space station to speak with USA TODAY's Dana Taylor, co-host of the publication's flagship podcast "The Excerpt." The full episode featuring the conversation will be available at 5 a.m. EST Sunday on USA TODAY's podcast and vodcast platforms.

All seven spacefarers aboard the International Space Station are members of Expedition 72. The Americans are Williams, commander of the expedi-



Nick Hague, left, Butch Wilmore, Don Pettit and Suni Williams, NASA astronauts aboard the International Space Station, appear Tuesday for an exclusive interview with USA TODAY. Wilmore and Williams, who have been stuck the ISS since June, said their focus has been on conducting science experiments, participating in space walks and soaking in as many sunset views of Earth as possible. USA TODAY

tion; Wilmore; Don Pettit, who arrived Sept. II, 2024, with Russians Alexey Ovchinin and Ivan Vagner aboard the Roscosmos Soyuz MS-26 craft; and Nick Hague, who arrived Sept. 29, 2024, with Russian Aleksandr Gorbunov on a SpaceX Dragon capsule.

Williams and Wilmore, who have both now been to space three times, said that their training and experience thoroughly prepared them for lengthy stays in orbit.

"Being deployed for a little while is not unusual for any of us and that's part of the game," Williams said. "You might not come home right away."

The interview took place hours before Trump took to Truth Social to implore SpaceX CEO Elon Musk to "go get" the astronauts. Musk acknowledged on his social media site X that he had readily agreed. It was not immediately clear if the two had crafted a new plan different from the one NASA announced in August, which has the astronauts flying back as early as March on a SpaceX Dragon capsule.

That spacecraft has been docked at

the station since September for a simple reason: Its passengers, Hague and Gorbunov, are scheduled for a six-month science rotation under the Crew-9 mission. The Starliner and Crew-9 spacefarers are also awaiting the arrival of their Crew-10 replacements, who are due to launch on a new Dragon capsule in late March.

Williams and Wilmore are making the best of the extra time in the cosmos. When astronauts don space suits and venture outside, it's to spend hours performing station maintenance and other seemingly menial tasks. There are moments, though, when they can't help but take in an astonishing view that few or will ever experience.

Hague certainly didn't pass up the opportunity to steal a few glances of Earth and its magnificent sunsets during a Jan. 16 spacewalk with Williams.

"The Earth is such a miraculous thing to look down on, and when you're in the space suit it's a little different than when you look out the windows inside the space station," Hague said. "Our field of view is so large, for a moment you can just feel like that suit melts away and it's just you witnessing the marvel that is the Earth."

At the time of the interview with USA TODAY, Williams and Wilmore were preparing for another space walk. For about 6½ hours, the Starliner astronauts removed radio communications hardware and swabbed the outpost's exterior to collect potential microbe samples for analysis. Williams now holds the record for the woman with the most cumulative time spent on space walks: 62 hours, 6 minutes.

In its two decades in orbit, the space station has become a critical hub for scientific research – much of it to prepare humans for deep-space exploration. The research the U.S. astronauts are conducting could pave the way for NASA to send astronauts back to the moon.

Recently, a SpaceX vehicle on a resupply mission transported a bevy of cargo to the station that included scientific research samples and hardware for Expedition 72 crew members. Much of it was meant to take advantage of the space station's microgravity environment – research Pettit has played a large role in conducting. Some of that research explores how microgravity and ultraviolet radiation affect plant growth, the findings of which could enable crews to grow crops on spacecraft during long-term missions further into the cosmos.

As Hague described to USA TODAY, if it's possible to grow microalgae in orbit, it could be a vital alternative to machines that consume carbon dioxide and produce oxygen for astronauts.

"As we try to go and explore deeper into space – go to the moon, go to Mars – those complicated machines are a failure point," Hague said.

The astronauts also described witnessing Earth from about 250 miles above as a profound experience – one that gives a new outlook on the commonalities all humans share.

"The perspective here allows you to see Earth as this precious whole thing that lacks a lot of boundaries," Hague said. "We're all connected on the Earth and in large part we have more things in common than we have different."

Pensacola News Journal, Feb. 1, 2025

## China builds space alliances in Africa

As Trump cuts foreign aid, Beijing looks to others to enhance global surveillance network

#### Joey Roulette, Eduardo Baptista, Sarah El Safty and Joe Brock REUTERS

On the outskirts of Cairo, a cuttingedge space lab was supposed to be the first in Africa to produce homegrown satellites. Step inside the plant, though, and the made-in-Africa image begins to fade

Satellite equipment and parts arrive in crates from Beijing. Chinese scientists scan space-tracking monitors and deliver instructions to Egyptian engineers. A Chinese flag hangs from one wall. The first satellite assembled at the factory, halled as the first ever made by an African nation, was built mainly in China and launched from a spaceport there in December 2023.

The Egyptian satellite lab is the latest advancement in China's secretive overseas space program. Beijing is building space alliances in Africa to enhance its global surveillance network and advance its bid to become the world's dominant space power, Reuters has learned.

China has publicly announced much of this space assistance to African countries, including its donations of satellites, space monitoring telescopes and ground stations.

What it hasn't discussed openly, and which Reuters is reporting for the first time, is that Beijing has access to data and images collected from this space technology, and that Chinese personnel maintain a long-term presence in facilities it builds in Africa.

The satellite plant, which began operating in 2023, is part of a suite of space technology that China has gifted to Egypt over the past two years. Transfers that have been disclosed publicly include a new space monitoring center, which features two of the world's most powerful telescopes, plus two Earth observation satellites launched in 2023 – the one that was assembled in Egypt, and another manufactured solely in China.

In addition, China that year launched a third, Chinese-made satellite for Egypt, one capable of military-grade surveillance, according to two people with knowledge of the matter. The satellite facility is the center-

The satellite facility is the centerpiece of Space City, a complex being constructed about 8 miles east of Cairo near a new administrative capital being built by Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El-Sii's eovernment.

tah El-Sisi's government. He has fostered closer ties with China in recent years, including inking infrastructure and energy projects under President Xi Jinping's Belt and Road Initiative.

The Egyptian presidency did not respond to a request for comment.

Egypt, a major recipient of U.S. mil-



Egypt's Space City, a gated complex near Cairo, also hosts a new African Space Agency created by the African Union. SARAH EL SAFTY/REUTERS FILE

itary aid, is not the only country in Africa being drawn into China's orbit. Beijing has 23 bilateral space partnerships in Africa, including funding for satellites and ground stations to collect satellite imagery and data, according to the United States Institute of Peace, a think tank. In the past year, Egypt, South Africa and Senegal agreed to collaborate with China on a future moon base, a project that rivals the United States' own lunar plans.

own lunar plans. This is just the beginning. In a meeting with dozens of African leaders in Beijing in September, Xi said satellites, as well as lunar and deep-space exploration, would be among the priorities for 50 billion in Chinese loans and investment earmarked for Africa over the next three years. Xi's administration says publicly it is helping boost African space programs because China wants no country left behind as economies and militaries become increasingly reliant on space technology.

ant on space technology. Privately, China is getting far more in return for its investment. This includes access to surveillance data collected by satellites and telescopes as well as a permanent presence in facilities it builds, according to six people with direct knowledge of China's space projects in Africa.

As China advances its relationships in Africa with technology incentives, the United States is pulling back. Billionaire Elon Musk, CEO of SpaceX and Tesla, is heading President Donald Trump's drive to shrink the federal government. One of his first targets has been the U.S. Agency for International Development, the aid agency that has spread American soft power around the world since its establishment by then-President John F. Kennedy in 1961.

The Pentagon says Čhina's space projects in Africa and other parts of the developing world are a security risk because Beijing can hoover up sensitive data, enhance its military capabilities and coerce governments if they become locked into China's communications ecosystem.

The Pentagon did not provide specific evidence that China has used space technology it has donated to Africa for intelligence or military purposes, and Reuters was unable to independently verify these claims.

Liu Pengyu, spokesman for the Chinese Embassy in Washington, D.C., did not respond directly to questions about whether China is using equipment in Africa for surveillance. He said the U.S. "is not in a position to smear or defame China" because of America's own record of spying.

of spying. "The U.S. is the world's largest surveillance state," Liu said.

The space infrastructure and equipment that China is installing in Africa have common civilian uses such as transmitting data, monitoring the impact of climate change and helping fly spacecraft. But they also have military applications.

Powerful telescopes are used for space situational awareness. They could predict when U.S. military satellites pass overhead and help coordinate the use of anti-satellite weapons, according to a 2022 report by the U.S. Defense Intelligence Agency.

During a conflict, for instance, if Chi-

na invaded democratically ruled Taiwan, knocking out an enemy's satellites could disrupt missile guidance systems and tangle communications between ground, air and naval troops. China and Russia have previously tested ASATs and are continuing to develop more advanced versions, the DIA report said.

Access to a broad range of Chinesebuilt, foreign-owned satellites gives Beijing the ability to better coordinate military operations. These satellites could also give China a clearer picture of U.S. military activities around the world. The Earth observation satellite assembled in Egypt, for instance, has the ability to take high-resolution images of areas where the U.S. and Egypt carry out joint military exercises.

China's overseas ground stations, like one it has built in Ethiopia and another it is planning with Namibia, can be used for coordinating military operations, tracking missile launches and monitoring other countries' space assets. They also add to a sprawling global network of data collection infrastructure, which includes undersea internet cables and 5G networks.

U.S. allies have pulled back from terrestrial space partnerships with China. In 2020, Sweden declined to renew a contract with China that had allowed Beijing to use satellite ground stations in Sweden and Australia, citing the "geopolitical situation."

Sweden's state-owned space company declined to comment further on the contract. Australia's defense department did not respond to a request for

Continued on next page

#### Continued from previous page

#### comment.

To understand China's space push in Africa, Reuters interviewed more than 30 people with knowledge of Chinese projects on the continent, including diplomats, space engineers, consultants, and military and intelligence officials. Reuters also reviewed over 100 patents and papers published by Chinese government and military bodies leading Beijing's space program.

#### China's space web

China's rapid expansion of its space infrastructure on Earth is an example of a broader trend in which Beijing is catching up with the U.S. on everything from satellites to uncrewed moon landings to anti-satellite weapons, Gen. Stephen Whiting, commander of the Pentagon's U.S. Space Command, told Reuters.

China has accelerated the launch of low-earth orbit communications satellites over the last two years in an effort to compete with Musk's Starlink. The mogul's rocket launch company SpaceX owns Starlink, which provides commercial internet service, but is also building a network of hundreds of spy satellites for the National Reconnaissance Office, a U.S. intelligence agency that manages spy satellites.

"We see breathtaking advancements by China in space," Whiting said, adding that the Pentagon is "paying attention" to Beijing's partnerships with developing countries.

China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation, a state-owned military and space contractor, has announced a goal to make the country the world's top space power by 2045. Plans include sending astronauts to the moon by 2030, building a moon base and developing nuclear-powered space shuttles.

The U.S. still has by far the biggest space program in the world, which is underpinned by SpaceX and a host of other private space companies.

China's space investments overseas also haven't always gone to plan. For instance, when a Chinese rocket carrying an Indonesian satellite exploded in 2020, it allowed SpaceX to swoop in and entrench itself as the Southeast Asian country's primary space contractor, Reuters reported.

Still, China's advances in space pose a challenge to Trump. During his first term, Trump created the U.S. Space Force, a new arm of the military that recognized the importance that space will play in future conflicts.

Trump's space team is unlikely to prioritize forging bilateral space relationships in the way Beijing has done in Africa, according to three space policy veterans who advised the former president's transition team.

They predict Trump is more likely to double down on America's military capacity in space and push ahead with a race to the moon and possibly Mars, bolstered by his friendship with Musk.

NASA's Artemis program, supported by rocket launches by private companies like SpaceX, aims to get astronauts back on the moon by 2028. NASA, in partnership with the United Arab Emirates, Canada, Japan and the European Space Agency, also plans to build a space station in the moon's orbit known as the Lunar Gateway.

The White House did not respond to a request for comment.

Washington's efforts at space diplomacy have been unable to counter China's growing bonds in Africa, which are gaining significance as a new global space race takes off, according to interviews with U.S. and African space officials.

Around 90 countries now have space programs of their own, with many smaller nations aligning their national policies around frameworks set out by Washington or Beijing. By helping developing countries build space industries, China is nurturing crucial alliances.

The moon has emerged as a test of allegiance. The U.S. has signed up more than 50 countries to the Artemis Accords, a set of rules to influence space exploration and the use of the moon and Mars. China has described the U.S. rule book as a colonial-style land grab, proposing instead to build a collaborative International Lunar Research Station. China has gained the support of a dozen countries for its moon base, including Russia and Egypt.

Scott Pace, head of the National Space Council in the first Trump administration, described China as a fundamentally "self-interested actor" whose partnerships aim to cement China as the "center of power" in space.

China's main space agency, the China National Space Administration, did not respond to a request for comment. In response to a question from a Reuters reporter at a media briefing in Beijing in October, Yang Xiaoyu, director of the agency's System Engineering Department, said China has data-sharing agreements with partner countries but "has never, and will never" use images and data to enhance its military surveillance capabilities.

Liu, the Chinese Embassy spokesman, said "African countries and their people have the wisdom and ability to choose partners that align with their own interests."

#### **US** missteps

In many ways, China's space diplomacy mirrors a strategy the U.S. has been implementing for decades. NASA. the Space Force and U.S. private companies maintain networks of global ground stations for tracking and communicating with satellites, mostly hosted in U.S. overseas territories or allied countries. These sites are used for monitoring space and downloading data – and for conducting secretive military operations in space.

Whiting said the U.S. programs aren't comparable to China's.

"We publicly talk about where they are, what they do," Whiting said of U.S. military ground stations. "With China, we don't see that same level of openness, and that does create doubt as to what's happening." Whiting said the U.S. Space Com-

Whiting said the U.S. Space Command does not have any space-tracking assets in countries where China is setting up similar capabilities.

China's expanding space presence in Africa stands in sharp relief to America's absence. NASA last year began construction on a ground station in South Africa – its first on the continent – to communicate with spacecraft in the U.S. moon program. Its partnerships consist mainly of a network of 36 shoebox-size atmospheric sensors scattered across14 African countries, according to NASA international agreements reviewed by Reuters. It has also enlisted three African countries – Angola, Nigeria and Rwanda – to the Artemis Accords.

Some African governments have grown weary of Washington's security warnings about China and are more interested in which country is going to provide money and space technology, said Temidayo Oniosun, managing director at Space in Africa, a Nigeriabased consultancy.

based consultancy. "The U.S. had decades to help Africa develop their space programs, but they never did," Oniosun said. "These countries are realizing that the U.S. doesn't exactly have their best interests at heart."

Pace, the former top space official under Trump, said the U.S. should have done more to build relationships in Africa and elsewhere. A big part of the problem is that NASA, the State Department and the U.S. development agencies often don't coordinate their efforts as closely as Chinese arms of government do, he said.

The State Department and NASA did not respond to requests for comment.

China's more coordinated approach was demonstrated in the way it embedded itself inside Egypt's space program from the start, according to interviews with five people involved in the projects.

#### Space City

In 2017, CNSA, the Chinese space agency, announced a partnership with Egypt's National Authority for Remote Sensing and Space Sciences to build a satellite facility in Cairo. The Chinese deal coincided with Cairo's creating the Egyptian Space Agency in January 2018 and laying out plans for the construction of a Space City on the outskirts of Cairo.

Between November 2017 and January 2018, Egyptian technicians and engineers went for training in China at space and military sites, two people with direct knowledge of the collaboration told Reuters.

When ground broke on the satellite plant, the Chinese ambassador to Egypt, Liao Liqiang, was on site. Liao, a career diplomat and vocal advocate for more Chinese-led space projects in Africa and the Middle East, would go on to closely oversee the development of the lab, according to the two people.

Dozens of construction workers and engineers from CASC, the Chinese space firm, moved into the Space City site. Some have never left.

The project was seen as a priority for China's space agency, and progress on it was fed back to CASC President Zhang Zhongyang, two sources said. CASC develops space tech to support China's military capabilities, according to a Reuters review of patents. This includes using satellites to coordinate missile strikes.

Zhang is a pivotal figure in China's space and military firmament. His background in missile design has made him a valuable player in efforts by the People's Liberation Army to build up its space capabilities, according to statements posted on the official website of China's State Council.

Zhang's role is highlighted by his membership in the military's Science and Technology Committee, a key part of the PLA's efforts to upgrade its technology and maintain war readiness. His high status in the Communist Party hierarchy is underscored by his inclusion in one of Xi's top decision-making bodies, the Central Committee.

In July 2024, Zhang visited Egypt to inspect the satellite facility, official photos show.

CASC, Zhang and Liao did not respond to requests for comment.

Egypt's satellite facility does not, however, add up to a full-fledged space program – it relies on China for almost every aspect of the project. Two of the three satellites emanating from the partnership so far were built solely in China, while the third was assembled in Egypt from Chinese components. All three were launched from China.

The first, dubbed Horus 1, was put into orbit in February 2023. That Earth observation satellite can help Egypt monitor agriculture productivity, predict natural disasters, and spot criminal activity such as narcotics cultivation, EgSA said at the time.

#### See SPACE, Page 10C

## Space

Continued from Page 9C

The second, Horus 2, was launched weeks later from the same spaceport in China, CASC announced, without disclosing the customer. Horus 2 is a military-grade surveillance satellite built for Egypt, two sources with knowledge of the satellite said. EgSA did not respond to questions about the purpose of Horus 2.

Egypt's third satellite, MisrSat-2, was launched in December 2023. It was the first to come out of the Cairo plant.

Most of the construction of Misr-Sat-2 was done by CASC in China; parts were shipped to Cairo, assembled and tested by CASC and Egyptian engineers, then shipped back to China for launch, two people with direct knowledge told Reuters. While the \$72 million satellite technically belongs to Egypt, CASC still monitors the data and images it collects, the people said.

Sherif Sedky, CEO of EgSA, told Reuters that the assembly facility and Misr-Sat-2 were "donations" from China and nothing was expected in return. Sedky said data from Egypt's satellites belongs to and is controlled by Cairo.

EgSA did not respond to questions about whether China also has access to the satellite data.

MisrSat-2 will help Egypt tackle climate change, enhance farming output and improve urban planning, EgSA says.

Sedky said Egypt is not picking sides in the space race by partnering with China. Cairo has received more than \$80 billion in U.S. military and economic assistance since the late 1970s, according to the State Department website.

"We are neutral, we deal with everybody," Sedky said in an interview in his office in Egypt's Space City, a gated complex that also hosts a new African Space Agency created by the African Union. "If we get an offer, we take it."

A Reuters journalist saw Chinese engineers buzzing in and out of the Space City complex. Asked about their presence, Sedky said they were there to install equipment and train Egyptian staff. He said these Chinese workers would leave eventually.

Egypt's satellite plant may soon have a new tenant with Chinese connections. In August, USPACE Technology Group, a



Dr. Sherif Sedky, CEO of the Egyptian Space Agency, told Reuters that the assembly facility near Cairo and the MisrSat-2 satellite were "donations" from China and nothing was expected in return. Sedky said data from Egypt's satellites belongs to and is controlled by Cairo. SARAH EL SAFTY/REUTERS FILE

Hong Kong-listed private space tech firm, said it had signed a strategic partnership with EgSA to develop satellite technology at Egypt's Space City.

USPACE did not respond to requests for comment.

#### **Telescopes too**

China and Egypt are also collaborating on a project to monitor satellites in orbit using sophisticated telescopes. That's a capability military analysts say is crucial as the number of satellites in space multiplies – along with the development of weapons to cripple them.

Two optical telescopes were recently erected on the roof of a hilltop research station outside Cairo. Workers from the National Astronomical Observatories of China helped.

Makram Ibrahim, professor of space physics at Egypt's National Research Institute of Astronomy and Geophysics, said the collaboration with China was for scientific research.

"There could be political motives, and you can do that analysis yourself on how they benefit politically," Ibrahim told Reuters. "Secondly, they benefit scientifically because the data I get here, we both use it."

Liu, the Chinese embassy spokesman, did not comment on China's specific motives for investing in Egypt's space program. He said "supporting Africa's development is a shared responsibility of the international community." Ethiopia is another recipient of space aid from Beijing. Since 2019, China has launched two Earth observation satellites for the East African country and funded construction of a ground station there. China also funds data collection to help Ethiopia monitor floods and droughts, said the country's top space official, Abdissa Yilma, the general director of the Ethiopian Space Science and Geospatial Institute.

He said his nation is neutral and wouldn't get drawn into the U.S.-China rivalry. But he said the contest could help supercharge technological development, just as East-West competition did in the Cold War.

"It seems that the race has started again," Yilma said.

Pensacola News Journal, Feb. 16, 2025

## Lunar lander expected to hunt for water

#### Commercial mission could launch this week

#### Eric Lagatta

USA TODAY

The U.S. company that made history in 2024 with an uncrewed lunar landing is looking to do it again.

The second lunar lander developed and operated by Intuitive Machines, a Houston-based space exploration company, is set to launch to the moon this week, according to NASA. The U.S. space agency is paying top dollar to finance the mission, dubbed IM-2, which will see the delivery of scientific instruments that will hunt for water under the lunar surface.

Intuitive Machines etched its name in the history books a year ago when its spacecraft Odysseus became the first commercially-built lunar lander to ever make it to the moon. The lunar mission also marked the United States' return to the moon for the first time in more than five decades since NASA's Apollo era came to an end.

The lunar lander, which could launch this week aboard a SpaceX rocket, is among a fleet of moon-bound uncrewed spacecraft slated to get off the ground in 2025 as NASA prepares to send humans back to the surface in the years ahead. Another lander developed and operated by Texas-based Firefly Aerospace is already more than a month into its own voyage to the moon, with plans to land early in March.

NASA's Artemis campaign envisions the moon as being a crucial pit stop to prepare U.S. astronauts and their vehicles to travel onward to Mars.

#### What is the IM-2 lunar mission?

Athena, the name of the six-legged Nova-C lander, is carrying a number of scientific instruments meant to pave the way for astronauts to return to the lunar surface as early as 2027.

NASA is just one of many customers on the mission, which it is helping to bankroll under its Commercial Lunar Payload Services program, or CLPS. The CLPS program allows the space agency to find lower-cost methods to finance lunar deliveries without having to develop spacecraft of its own.

The solar-powered Athena lander, a hexagonal cylinder capable of carrying up to 300 pounds of cargo, will prominently carry a drill and a mass spectrometer, NASA said. Drilling operations will seek to detect and measure the potential presence of gases from beneath the lunar soil.

Other objectives include testing a Nokia LTE 4G communications system and deploying a propulsive drone capable of hopping across the lunar surface.

Additionally, an instrument known as a Laser Retroreflector Array on the



Intuitive Machines' second delivery to the moon will carry NASA technology on the Nova-C lunar lander. PROVIDED BY INTUITIVE MACHINES

top deck of the lander will be activated. The array should be able to bounce laser light back at any orbiting or incoming spacecraft – a vital capability that will provide a permanent reference point on the lunar surface.

The four-day window for the launch opens on Wednesday. Athena will hitch a ride on a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket, which will lift off from Launch Complex 39A at NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Florida.

If it launches Wednesday, the lander will attempt to touch down March 6 on the moon's south pole near a plateau known as Mons Mouton. The mesa-like lunar mountain towers over a landscape carved by craters, including the Shackleton Crater, a cold, dark region where water, ice and other materials that turn into gas are thought to be abundant.

Launching as a rideshare on the SpaceX rocket with the IM-2 delivery, NASA's Lunar Trailblazer spacecraft will also begin its own separate journey to lunar orbit to map the distribution of the different forms of water on Earth's only natural satellite.

#### NASA's interest in the moon

The mission is the latest uncrewed lunar venture that is meant to lay the foundation for astronauts to return to the moon and set up a long-term lunar settlement on the south pole. NASA has said that ice thought to be abundant in the region could be extracted and used for drinking, breathing, and as a source of hydrogen and oxygen for rocket fuel to make expeditions to Mars possible.

But while NASA has been preparing for crewed moon missions under its Artemis campaign, President Donald Trump seems to favor focusing on Mars. During his inauguration speech in January, Trump made no mention of NASA's lunar ambitions while touting his goal of humanity reaching the red planet during his second term.

SpaceX founder Elon Musk, a staunch Trump ally who has often stated his goal of making "life multiplanetary," has himself envisioned a more aggressive approach of sending humans straight from Earth to Mars – perhaps as soon as 2028.

Musk's dream would involve SpaceX's massive Starship vehicle, which has yet to reach orbit in any of its seven flight tests so far. The 400-foot Starship vehicle, though, has also been hired by NASA to one day meet Artemis III astronauts in orbit and ferry them down to the lunar surface from the Orion capsule.

The potential launch of this lunar landing comes just more than a year after Intuitive Machines ushered in America's first return to the moon in more than 50 years. The 14-foot-tall Nova-C lander, nicknamed Odysseus for the hero of Greek myth, touched down Feb. 22, 2024, landing in the southernmost location of any lunar craft. The lander remained functional for a week, collecting data and photos that were beamed back to Earth. Odysseus' landing marked the first time a commercial company built a spacecraft that made it to the lunar surface.

#### Another lander on way to moon

If all goes according to plan, Athena could touch down just four days after another lunar lander manufactured by a separate company makes its own landing.

Firefly Aerospace's lunar lander, named Blue Ghost, launched Jan. 15 on a much longer spaceflight bound for the moon. NASA, which is also the primary customer on the mission under its CLPS program, paid for a fleet of scientific instruments to be delivered and tested once the spacecraft attempts to land March 2.

The targeted landing site is on the moon's near side at a volcanic feature called Mons Latreille. The region is located within Mare Crisium, a 300-milewide basin believed to have been created by early volcanic eruptions and flooded with basaltic lava more than 3 billion years ago.

News Press, Feb. 25, 2025

# Appendix 2: Editorials and opinion articles

## Moon Program: Is Time Ripe For Questions?

#### By WILLIAM HINES

WASHINGTON - Now that the initial shock of the tragedy at Pad 34 is beginning to wear off, the second guessers are stirring. They are wondering - with a murmur now which will grow to a shout later - whether we should be going to the moon at all.

The time to have asked this question was 68 months ago, when the proposition was first laid out. The then President Kennedy challenged Congress to hash out the matter thoroughly before setting the nation on the road to the moon. Congress listened to his May 25, 1961, space message with slack-jawed wonderment and then — with little debate and no dissenting votes — authorized the moon program.



Thus Congress — as well as the administration and the nation as a whole — is stuck with project Apollo, and any six-year veteran of Capitol Hill who raises his voice in doubt now is in peril of being asked where he was when the great debate didn't materialize.

There are probably as many good reasons for not

going to the moon as for going, but now is not the time to bring them up. The United States has laid its prestige on the line. It has spent most of the billion dollars Apollo will cost, and it would probably be harder now to turn the program off than it was to turn it on in the first place.

IN ADDITION — to be just a bit mawkish about it — it would dishonor the memories of astronauts "Gus" Grissom, Ed White, and Roger Chaffee to scrub the program now because they died so suddenly and tragically.

There is probably some justification for the assertion, sometimes heard from heretics here and there, that Kennedy sold the country a tremendous bill of goods.

He was new in office, a bit bloodied by the Bay of Pigs fiasco and the Russian propaganda victory scored the month before by Yuri Gagarin in the spacecraft Vostok 1. In addition, he had been elected on a promise "to get America moving again."

BUT, HE MADE it clear to the Congress it was their decision to reach: "This is the judgment which the members of Congress must finally make — let it be clear that I am asking the Congress and the country to accept a firm commitment to a new course of action — a course which will last for many years and carry very heavy costs."

Well, the decision was made, and 5½ years later we found ourselves in the face of a very great difficulty. What is to be done?

FROM ANY BATIONAL point of view, the only thing to do is carry on. The Apollo program necessarily will mark time until the true cause of the spacecraft disaster is located and corrected. It is entirely possible that the Russians will get to the moon ahead of us.

But so what? The world will not end, or America vanish, if Russians beat us to the moon. Kennedy covered this point, too, in this amazingly prescient message of May 1961:

"While we cannot guarantee that we shall one day be the first, we can guarantee that any failure to make this effort will make us last."

St. Petersburg Times, Feb 3, 1967



# To Infinity and Beyond?: More Wasteful Spending at NASA

The Obama administration is squandering government dollars on useless space programs.

By Peter Roff, Contributing Editor for Opinion April 10, 2013



FILE - In this Jan. 13, 2013 file photo, the Orion Exploration Flight Test 1crew module is seen in the Operations and Checkout building during a media tour at the Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral, Fla. Senate Science and Space subcommittee Chairman Sen. Bill Nelson, D-Fla. says President Barack Obama and NASA are planning for a robotic spaceship to lasso a small asteroid and park it near the moon. Then astronauts would explore it in 2021. Nelson said the plan would speed up by four years an existing mission to land astronauts on an asteroid by bringing the space rock closer to Earth. 📓 JOHN RAOUX/AP PHOTO

THE SEQUESTER HAS forced Washington, D.C. to tighten its belt.

The spending restraint is long overdue. Total federal debt now exceeds, by most estimates, one year's U.S. gross domestic product. Even so, the modest reduction in spending the sequester has forced the federal government to absorb is not nearly enough to get the books in balance.

It's also not, as recent reports have shown, enough to force the government to prioritize or even to show a little common sense. Exhibit A is the new plan underway at NASA, which has had little to do since the space shuttle program was terminated, to lasso an asteroid at an estimated cost of \$100 million.

### [See a collection of political cartoons on the budget and deficit.]

According to the online blog Hot Air, "The capture plan is being described as a 'baggie with a draw string' to snag the rock – ideally 25 ft across and 500 tons – and drag it back here to park it in orbit near the moon." Scientists could then examine it with an eye to potentially learning something "which could be used for asteroid mining in the future."

If the economy were growing at a healthy rate, say 4 percent per year, then maybe such an experiment could be justified. Science and experimentation drives job creation, produces economic growth and, to put it bluntly, can be really interesting. The nation certainly profited from President Kennedy's vow to put a man on the moon and return him safely to Earth within a decade. The Mercury, Gemini, and Apollo programs added considerably to America's national honor, fostered a countrywide spirit of adventure and attracted countless children into careers in math and science.

Now, under Obama, NASA has little to do. Instead of returning to the moon or planning for a manned mission to Mars, as President George W. Bush once proposed, the current administration has relegated the once storied agency to the job of making the Islamic world feel good about the many contributions it has made to science and mathematics over the centuries.

Turning astronauts into space-based version of Gene Autry and Roy Rodgers, doing what amounts to extremely expensive, technologically sophisticated rope tricks, does not measure up – especially when the economy is growing at less than 1 percent. The money is just not there for such flights of fancy.

In fact, the entire U.S. science budget could stand stricter scrutiny. From studies of poultry genitalia to the Starbase Youth Program – which teaches science, technology, engineering, and math to at-risk youth living near military bases located around the United States, a task that could easily be taken up by a private sector that needs the trained work force – there is just too much science pork out there for anyone to be comfortable.

More than that, government science, as a cultural matter, becomes the "accepted science," which then attracts the best scientists and researchers because the funding stream is continual and essentially guaranteed.

To boldly go where no man or woman has gone before, America must first get its financial house in order. If the government continues to spend money on such luxuries as the "Lasso an Asteroid" program, there will be less money available for core functions. By failing to choose between "guns" and "butter," the country may someday find itself in the position where it can afford neither – unless the Chinese, who have a space program of their own, continue to lend us the money.



## The Real Cost Of NASA Missions

## How much are we really paying to explore the universe?

By SHANNON STIRONE NOVEMBER 4, 2015

Since its inception in 1958, NASA has accomplished some pretty spectacular feats of science. Our country has landed humans on the Moon six times. We've successfully put laboratories onto the surface of Mars, and we've flown by every single planet in our solar system, including the recently promoted asteroid-turned-dwarf planet, Ceres.

Despite decades of scientific and technological achievements, some people still think that funding NASA is a waste of money. However, when you do the calculations, it turns out we are actually getting a great value from this government-run agency.

## What NASA Gives Us

We can thank the Cold War for NASA's existence in the first place. After the launch of Sputnik in 1957, President Eisenhower realized we were losing the space race. So, on July 29th, 1958, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration was born. Upon signing the Space Act, Eisenhower said this about the new program: "There are many aspects of space and space technology which can be helpful to all people as the United States proceeds with its peaceful program of space and exploration. Every person has the opportunity to share through understanding in the adventures which lie ahead."

For 57 years NASA has provided the world with new perspectives on our species and our place in the cosmos. After the Apollo 8 mission sent back the famous "Earthrise" image, we were able to see ourselves for the first time. There we were, a beautiful blue ball, where everyone lives. Then on Valentine's day in 1990, the Voyager 1 spacecraft turned around on its way out of our solar system, and took the ultimate family portrait. This time, from a distance of 3.7 billion miles away, we were tiny, just a speck among the stars. It was because of moments like these that for decades when children were asked what they wanted to be when they grew up, they answered, "an astronaut!" This dream only existed because of NASA.

Recently, the world was united once again in the spirit of space exploration as the New Horizons spacecraft flew by Pluto. Always the underdog of the solar system, and discovered only in 1930, we never really knew what Pluto looked like; it is 3 billion miles away, after all. On July 14th it seemed as though the world stopped; people tweeted, Facebooked, and cheered on the streets while humankind accomplished something great. And while no one could see the spacecraft, we all

watched in awe as the nine-year journey came to a close and we flew past Pluto, only to find out it was more interesting than anyone could have ever imagined.

## The Price Of Awe And Amazement

Getting inspired by science and discovery is one of the most rewarding parts of being a human. But exploring isn't free, especially not in the space case. What is the price of awe and amazement?

Since the end of the Apollo program in 1972 NASA has operated with an average 0.5 percent of the total US budget. That's not even a percent of the total 3 trillion dollars allocated to the U.S. in 2014. Although that may still seem like a lot of money, let's compare it to the beginning of the Apollo program.

In 1961, President John F. Kennedy decided that NASA would send humans to the Moon before the end of the decade. At that time, each U.S. citizen was paying \$20 per year to NASA. JFK needed that number to go up to \$26 a year to help get our astronauts to the Moon. In 2015 dollars, the Apollo era budget would have been equivalent to each American paying over \$200 a year to the space administration. If NASA still had that sort of funding in 2015, that would make its budget a whopping \$65 billion dollars per year, compared to its actual budget of \$17.5 billion. Instead, in 2014 each American paid an average of \$54 per year to NASA.

That money gets spread out over many different projects. So even though the Curiosity rover had an astounding \$2.6 billion price tag, each citizen only paid about about \$0.41 per year to put the SUV-sized robot on Mars.

Since 1972, NASA's budget hasn't increased, but has been cut by roughly 75 percent, and it's stayed that way for 42 years. While the Apollo era budget was arguably not sustainable, it raises questions as to what might be possible if NASA once again had access to more financial support.

NASA has made a little bit of money go a long way. In addition to organizing science missions, the space agency employs over 60,000 people including private organizations. But NASA can't do it all. Budget cuts are delaying the development of the Commercial Crew program, which would get astronauts launching from American soil again. In the meantime, we'll be forced to continue buying tickets on the Russian Soyuz.

## What Lies Ahead

Despite its ongoing budgetary battles, NASA continues to do good science.

Next on the horizon for NASA's space exploration agenda is a flyby of Europa. The mission to Jupiter's icy moon has created a lot of excitement for astrobiologists. Because Europa has more water in its oceans than all of the water combined on Earth, it has the potential to harbor life.

There won't be another "Apollo moment" for our space program.

The quest to land humans on Mars in the 2030's is also something scientists at NASA are trying to plan for.

It's widely accepted that there won't be another "Apollo moment" for our space program. NASA will probably never receive the amount of funding it did when JFK set his sights on the Moon. There also probably won't be another Cold War, but there will always be this question: What else is out there?

We've barely scratched the surface of the solar system--there are so many more questions, and many more questions we don't even know we have. The price of understanding is small, and for people around the globe to feel connected over a rocket launch, a rover landing, a photo, or a spacewalk is priceless. Let's not stop. Let's keep pushing forward and as NASA says, let's continue to "dare mighty things."

Copyright © 2018 Popular Science. A Bonnier Corporation Company. All rights reserved. Reproduction in whole or in part without permission is prohibited.

## Space business an economic engine for Florida

#### BY PEDRO MEDELIUS



Space an economic engine for Florida Recovering from the downturn following the retirement of the Space Shuttle program six years ago, Florida cpace shuttle program six years ago, Florida continues to success-fully expand the business of space. Building upon our heritage, the space industry and Florida are evolving to meet new competitive challenges including re-suming manned flights in the near future.

These initiatives include establishing commercial operations in suborbital and low-Earth orbits, as well as developing national

deep space human exploration capabilities involving Orion and NASA's Space Launch System (SLS). All Floridians should be proud to know space operations

An Florinan's stolar be prote to know space operations and facility upgrades continue to progress at Kennedy Space Center and Cape Canaveral Air Force Station. The Vehicle Assembly Building, a crawler transporter and a firing room are being modified to support the SLS launches. Furthermore, the Executive Office of Gov. Rick Scott announced that the budget for the 201748 fiscal year, starting July 1, 2017, includes \$34 million for launch complex improvements. Growth in the space business arena impacts all of Florida,

not just the Space Coast. Today more than 150,000 Floridians are employed by more than 19,000 aerospace companies gener ating in excess of \$20 billion in annual sales and revenues. All 67 counties contribute to this multi-billion dollar industry. The acrospace product and parts manufacturing sector is the largest manufacturing segment in Florida with an average wage of

\$77,343. Florida's future continues to look bright. Private companies are launching cargo to the International Space Station and preparing to fly American astronauts from American soil in the next few years, eliminating America's dependence on foreign next few years, eliminating America's dependence on foreign nations for space access and demonstrating – once again – we are the preeminent space faring nation in the world, with Florida being the premier launching location in the U.S. We also are developing new spacecraft and rockets, along with the necessary infrastructure to support launch operations

Growth in the space business arena impacts all of Florida, not just the Space Coast.

more capable and powerful than those used to put humans on the moon – pushing the frontiers of human spaceflight exploration forward to Mars and

beyond. On Wednesday, Florida Space Day, industry leaders and other aerospace supporters met with Florida legislators and executive branch officials in Tallahassee to discuss the state's space industry and effective strategies for lever-

aging economic development policies to attract more private sector investment and jobs, and effectively face on-going active competition from other states.

Florida's elected officials have played an extraordinary role of winning jobs and capital investment from aerospace throughout the state of Florida, and commercial companies or winning jobs and capita of Florida, and commercial companies have started investing on manufacturing facilities at Kennedy Space Center's Exploration Park managed by Space Florida. Other states, including Virginia, Texas, Georgia, California and Colorado, compete vigorously for high-tech, high-wage aero-space business and leverage the conomic development tools at their disposal to combat Florida's efforts to bring those jobs to the Sunshine State. We must continue to innovate and posi-tion Florida to compete and win in this arena. Florida's aerospace industry supports both the legislative initiatives and priorities of Enterprise Florida and Space Flor-ida. These major organizations have driven the state's success in competing for aerospace sector jobs. Specifically, we support the following legislative actions: E Florida's economic development efforts Maintaining Space Florida's budget of \$19.5 million Florida is poised to exceed the competitive challenges of this new space era with a high-tech ready workforce, innovative use of existing space inforsting space information and sys-tem, pro-job creation business environment and unmatched unding off. When the late is development and unmatched

tem, pro-job creation business environment and unmatched quality of life. With the help of Florida leadership and the Legislature, we will create additional high-tech/high-pay jobs, scientific discoveries, business opportunities, and support educational excellence in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) for our next generation of Floridians.

Pedro Medelius is the chief technologist for ASRC Federal Space and Defense and the chair of Florida Space Day 2017.

South Florida Sun Sentinel, Mar. 10, 2017

# A Times editorial Tampa Bay Times, Apr. 20, 2021 The promise of Ingenuity

The little helicopter weighs only 4 pounds, and its first flight lasted a mere 30 seconds and reached an altitude of only 10 feet. But it did so on Mars. Stop and wonder about that for a moment. For the first time, humankind has achieved powered flight on another planet. A feat that would be nothing for a 10-year-old child to accomplish with a back-yard drone takes on new meaning when it happens 178 million miles away on a planet with 1 percent of Earth's atmosphere.

Engineers at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in California didn't know the flight had succeeded until more than three hours after it was over; that's when the burst of data was finally relayed to Earth. Hold that thought in your mind for a second.

In a year in which a pandemic has claimed more than 567,000 American lives and 3 million across the globe, in which the promise of American justice and equity is on trial again — this time in a Minneapolis courtroom, it's worthwhile to look outside of ourselves for a second to other worlds and remember what we can accomplish as a species.

Sixty years ago this month, human space flight began. It wasn't an American; it was a Russian cosmonaut - Soviet, actually - named Yuri Gagarin who made one orbit of Earth and set in motion the Space Race, which pitted the Americans and the Soviets against each other in a kind of Cold War for preeminence in the actual heavens. In a stark bit of symbolism, some of the same kinds of rockets that launched astronauts into space were secreted in missile silos topped with nuclear warheads, ready to fire in an instant on command of the president that

would have started a war that could only be lost.

That Space Race effectively ended in July 1969, when the late Neil Armstrong jumped off the last rung of the Lunar Module's ladder to announce "a giant leap for mankind." Back on Earth, while people across the globe were astonished that Earthlings were walking on the moon, many also wondered if those billions of dollars should have been spent instead on what we would now term social justice. The 2018 movie First Man, a decidedly unheroic look at the Apollo moon mission, captured that mood in using the Gil Scott-Heron protest song as a sort of soundtrack: "Was all that money I made las' year (for Whitev on the moon?) How come there ain't no money here? (Hmm! Whitey's on the moon.)" The parallels to today are instructive, and we face some of those same choices. So was it worth it? Is it now?

On Thursday, an international crew will rocket toward the International Space Station aboard a commercial spacecraft called the SpaceX Crew Dragon. On board will be four astronauts — two from NASA, one from Japan and one from France who will take command of the space station after



This image from NASA's Perseverance rover shows the agency's Ingenuity Mars Helicopter on the Martian surface.

they dock. The key word here is "international." Space has gone from a race for national dominance to a largely cooperative scientific and commercial enterprise. From satellites that make GPS and global communications possible to space probes and orbiting telescopes that enrich our understanding of the universe itself, space exploration is far different than 60 years ago when it was a battle of international will. Today's watchwords are cooperation, not competition; wonder, not proxy war.

That little helicopter on Mars will make more flights, but it has no point except to expand our sense of the possible. If we can fly on Mars, we are capable of so much else. If we don't keep looking boldly to the far horizon and the future, where do we look instead? Down at our feet? So, yes, it is worth it, for reminding us all what we can accomplish on Mars — and back here on Earth — if we put our minds to it.



NASA/Bill Ingalls French astronaut Thomas Pesquet will be among four flying to the International Space Station on Thursday.



Soviet Major Yuri Gagarin became the first human in space on April 12, 1961.

#### Tampa Bay Times, Mar. 11, 2022

## Our space partnership with Russia can't go on

Over the past two weeks, the war in Ukraine changed the politics of the world. It also changed the politics of spaceflight, but spaceflight has some catching up to do.

As relations between Washington and Moscow have fallen to their lowest ebb since the Cuban missile crisis, NASA Administrator Bill Nelson, the former Florida senator, has worked hard to keep everything normal aboard the International Space Station, crewed by four Americans, two Russians and one German. Given the complexity of the space outpost, the need to keep it safe for habitation and the agreements that



govern its operation, Nelson's calm approach is understandably dictated by both technical necessity and high-level diplomacy.

The Russians, however, have not reacted in the same spirit. Dmitry Rogozin, the belligerent chief of the Russian federal space agency known as Roscosmos, has made clear that he fully supports the invasion and has even made threats toward his ISS partners, includ-

ing invoking nuclear war. He has also indicated he is willing to abandon the ISS, in a recent tweet expressing the hope it would crash into the United States or Europe.

In nearly every arena, the Biden administration has imposed harsh sanctions on Russia. The space station should not be immune. It's time to end our well-intentioned partnership with Russia — even if, as seems almost certain, it would mean the early closing and decommissioning of the space station.

The realpolitik of the International Space Station is that it is not only a symbol of cooperation between us and the Russians, but it also provides a certain amount of diplomatic leverage. The fact is, Russia needs the ISS a lot more than we do.

When the space station began continuous occupancy in 2000, we wanted to learn how to build large structures in space and get experience with lengthy spaceflight. These goals have been accomplished, and now the station is approaching obsolescence, its recently planned life extension to 2030 not-withstanding. With our flourishing commercial space companies, who are already cutting metal on their own future space stations, plus our federal government's Artemis moon program, the United States is entering a new golden age of space exploration. The Russians, meanwhile, are stuck in the past with antiquated spacecraft and nowhere to go except the ISS.

If we are truly determined to stop Putin's brutal war, we have to use every lever we've got. Unhappily, that includes the space station. The decision-making on a matter this important shouldn't be NASA's alone. The White House will need to direct it. A 1998 memo of understanding, which I helped to negotiate while at NASA, controls the joint operation of the ISS; it should be reviewed by the National Space Council, headed by Vice President Kamala Harris, who should then call in our partners, principally Europe, Canada and Japan, to determine whether Russia should remain aboard.

If the partners agree that Russia's illegal war warrants exclusion, this decision will put the Russians on notice that using their ISS role to apply pressure — space blackmail, essentially — won't work. If, as is likely, the Russians refuse to drop out, then for safety purposes we will have to continue to work with them, but there should be instructions to our astronauts to avoid any friendly optics; this is not the moment for smiling and hugging Americans and Russians in space. We should also proceed on our own to carefully and resolutely decommission the ISS.

Right now, the Russian contribution principally involves boosting the station when it needs to move into a higher, safer orbit. Recently, we performed that function with our Cygnus spacecraft. We should immediately make contingency plans to take over that responsibility, along with any others the Russians perform.

President Ronald Reagan got the ball rolling on the space station program in 1984, but it was Vice President Al Gore who kept it alive in 1993 when he directed NASA to make the Russians our partners. Although some say he did it so Russian engineers wouldn't go to work for our adversaries, I think his primary reason was simple goodwill. When I went to Moscow in 1996 as a NASA manager to help figure out how to train space station crews, I saw firsthand the struggle of its people after the collapse of the Soviet Union. Although I'm a Vietnam vet and served in the Army during the worst years of the Cold War, my heart went out to the Russian people. It was also right and proper that we should make them our partners.

And for more than two decades that partnership worked very well. Each side benefited from the other's know-how, and many friendships have grown between American and Russian engineers and astronauts and cosmonauts. At its heart, this is the way to avoid war — to recognize each other as human beings with families who deserve to live in peace.

But now, with this reckless war by one of the major ISS partners, NASA just can't go on as if everything is normal — because it simply isn't.

Homer Hickam is a former NASA engineer, an adviser to the National Space Council and the author of multiple books, including the memoir "Rocket Boys."

© 2022 Washington Post

HICKAM

### OPINION

## Moving NASA to Fla. makes sense



Your Turn Jim Thomas Guest columnist

On Florida's sunlit shore, the Space Coast launched humanity's first steps into the cosmos. From our first satellite, Explorer 1, to Apollo's moonwalks, iconic missions like Gemini, Shuttle, and SpaceX's Falcon rockets began here, cementing its unrivaled legacy.

That legacy now fuels a second space age, where a wave of private space companies — SpaceX, Blue Origin, and others — join NASA's Artemis missions in pushing boundaries. The Space Coast is ready to lead again. Let's seize the moment.

For decades, Cape Canaveral and Kennedy Space Center have been the heartbeat of human spaceflight. Alan Shepard's leap, John Glenn's orbit, and Hubble's gaze into the universe all started here. No other place matches this history.

Yet, as we stand on the cusp of a new era, clinging to outdated structures risks ceding leadership to others. Why settle for less when the Space Coast offers so much more?

#### The new Space Age

Today, private pioneers like Sierra Space, Vast, Axiom, Intuitive Machines, Phantom, Stoke, Vaya, and Relativity, among others, alongside SpaceX and Blue Origin, are redefining exploration with innovations from reusable rockets



The International Space Station is pictured from inside a window aboard the SpaceX Crew Dragon Endeavour during a fly around of the orbiting lab that took place following its undocking from the Harmony module's spacefacing port on Nov. 8, 2021. NASA

to lunar landers. Together with them, NASA's Artemis missions aim to return us to the Moon, while the U.S. Space Force defends our orbital assets, securing America's future in space. Together, they're driving a new space age —one the Space Coast is prepared to lead.

NASA's nationally scattered centers, shaped by past political decisions, along with legacy programs from a bygone era, stifle innovation and hinder leadership. To truly forge ahead, we must break free from these constraints. Let's set politics aside and establish the Space Coast as the undisputed hub for space exploration, capitalizing on its

unmatched history, infrastructure, and potential. While other spaceports will emerge, none will match Cape Canaveral's legacy or promise.

NASA and the U.S. Space Force are

NASA's nationally scattered centers, shaped by past political decisions, along with legacy programs from a bygone era, stifle innovation and hinder leadership.

poised to fuel this renaissance — if we opt for progress over the past.

#### A unified collaboration

NASA's mission to explore and the Space Force's duty to protect align perfectly on the Space Coast, where they can collaborate seamlessly. For NASA, proximity to Kennedy Space Center streamlines Artemis missions, speeds decisions, and deepens industry ties vital for lunar and Mars goals. For the Space Force, this coastal hub enables rapid satellite launches and stronger defense of U.S. assets. Sharing launch facilities and talent here would accelerate joint initiatives, like lunar networks and orbital security.

Yet NASA's operational heart remains fragmented. It should maintain a presence in Washington, but its headquarters and vital resources belong here. To unify its efforts, relocating to Kennedy Space Center would cut costs, spark innovation, and amplify this partnership, anchoring America's global space leadership where history was made. Why settle for Washington when the Space Coast is the future?

Beyond mere launches, the Space

Coast excels as a place to live and build. New communities like Tranquility, close to Kennedy Space Center, complement thriving hubs such as Melbourne, Viera, Lake Nona, and the upcoming Sunbridge, where top institutions like Embry-Riddle, Florida Tech, UCF, and UF foster elite talent. Seamless global connections through international airports, Port Canaveral, and Brightline Rail make it an ideal business location. For space companies, Cape Canaveral provides unparalleled facilities and global recognition, attracting innovation and investment. No other place combines this level of livability with the resources needed to lead the future of space exploration.

75 years ago, Cape Canaveral launched humanity's first dreams into orbit. Now, we ask: What will the next 75 years bring? Artemis will return us to the Moon, commercial space stations will redefine low-Earth orbit, and Mars is within reach. The Space Coast has always led these leaps—and it will lead us again to the cosmos.

Will we cling to the past or soar into the future? The choices we make now will shape our cosmic destiny. Let's make the Space Coast the official capital of space exploration for the next 75 years and beyond.

From the shores that launched us to the stars, let's write that future—together.

Jim Thomas is the co-founder of Karman Line, Inc., fostering innovation and connectivity within the space industry. He is passionate about humanity's journey to the stars and has given international talks on the future of space.

# Appendix 3: Newspaper front pages

For larger images of front pages and pdfs of complete editions, visit <u>nieonline.com/tbtimes/hse\_trunk.cfm</u>.



Teamsters Big Union Ignores Rackets Charges

In Picking Beck's

APW WIREPHO INS, Dow J. Chicago Tr

### Turkey Rejects

Soviet Charges Of Aggression ANKARA, Oct. 5. (Sat day) – (P. – Turkey to sharply rejected So charges of planned aggress ris and publich Moscow to aban m Middle Eas Turkish government the text of a letter

war by massing war by massing be Syrian border called an Ameri-

n Gives Wife

dding Present

Eisenhower Flies To Gettysburg, Goes Golfing GETTYSBURG, Ps., Oct. (P) - President and Mr

Dick Warner, Newsman To End, Dies Of Cancer

<text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text> Richard Fay Dicki Warner, for the New York Times and 50, who wrote Inn'i Cry ley 10, the slowy of a cancer via 10, in the Tribune two weeks age died happy resident weet to Santa Monica at the weeks ago un day herause his stun, been published. "I will end as a newspaper man," he said, when shown a man," he said, when shown a



Montreal New Orleans ... New York ... Philadelphia ...

Tell A.M. 260 P.M. Essent Toronal Tille A.M. 200 P.M. Essent Toronal Tille A. Low Toronal Torona

-- ices Committee, also requested -- a copy of the order last Friday.

order on the send is send to send to send the send to send to

<text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text><text>

In names of their He set officers. Officers of the refus cated. Jave sub-tr of soldiers at-units country in records of the country in records was regarded as the their regulator the their regulator the their seconds of the country in the the regulator the the the the the the the the regulator aid that by that y agencies should be and the scope of the may be broadened

Series Tells How Pinella Succeeds With New Inde

Over U. S. In ce To Prob







#### BAY UPSETS McGILL, 18-6

OLUME 5 - NO. 297 TWELVE PAGES

(See Sports Page)

'ANAMA CITY NEV

Moscow Radio Reports First 'Moon' Ever To Be Launched Into Space LONDON, Oct. 4 (UP) - Moseow Radio said tonight

thing satellites, then m was revealed in a

arth satellite in connection the International Gephysical does not expect to launch ist "moon" until next spring. Two Tests Held lready has held the test

applemented No Comment to an and the state of the stat

Of all an additional lake and 33 minutes." WASHINGTON, Oct. 4 (UP)-Washing apparently has beaten the allocal finandexisting On RCA Communications in The White House I allocal optimetry output his departmetry cought this capital squarently cought in statement and apparently cought in capital by and it internated in tra-

Russia Claims Earth Satellite Launched

WEATHER TODAY m.: Low 1:2

PRICE, FIVE CENTS

News Notes

second night ay rodeo, with scheduled for Brone riding, and other Vest" are ina-called the big-

**Red Author** 

World War I, Mr. sch nember of Vernon the

Herrell, w promise in caucus, swit loday. Bot may support vote next v ter" develop But Surls Assault on Pesty Fly Mer. Cost Man Ten Dollars crell DETROIT

Back to top

ting on an adjoining stool. we can best 5." a substitute article Cons Chandler was fined by Record. Gibbony offered a substitute article is rej er's Judge Elvin L. Davenport, plan, calling for a 43 - member/ment fails.



UNITED PRESS TALEPHOT

**McClellan Blasts Hoffa Election** MCCleilon Diosis norto Election Chairmai John L. McClelan, (right), or the Seate Labor Racket Committee, tella seporters at a press conference in Washington yesterday that. James R. Bidfie's election as president of the Teamster, Union is a challenge to Coggress to clean out labor's "Univerputible, corrupt, and eriminal elements." He issued the statement shortly aller Hoffa's election in Miami, (United Press Telepholo)

McCLELLAN BLASTS HOFFA'S ELECTION The statistic of the state of the state

It already has held to be set of 38 centimeters in dame back of the set of the set of the set of the back of the set of the set of the set of the back of the set of the set of the set of the back of the set of the set of the set of the back of the set of the set of the set of the back of the set of the set of the set of the back of the set of the set of the set of the the set of the set of the set of the the set of the reiminal elements." AFL-CIO efficials declared that the Texnites had voted litera-selves right out of the parent lobor organization by electing Mota. They predicted line AFL-CIC Executive Council would expel the Teamsters at an Oct. 24 meeting

The world's first sate



TALLAHASSEE. Oct. 4 1020-- Smale and 115 mass longe hull Gibl The 6-314 responsement com- it was repicted 144 with legisla- for promise sailed out 16 forest com- it owns recan Alachan. Lean and Mars I makes today, and many bay lon voting against an additional lattice of the fore or all the polici locations.

tron from to-ies-Sam Gibbo-ies-Sam Gibbo-gh, John Mathew Suries of Polk reil of Dade errell, who voted in a puer whet to

set with has gained has an effective time a under lifetocome and the set of the set All or Nothing Islature has tacked on

White House Leaves FBI Files

United Probe Up To U.S. Judge Davies WASHINGTON, Oct. 6 (UP)- indicated The White House said loday that tion to release of secret FBI reports on which mig

aid last night that Russia h ad Jaunched an eart meeption of the United States' projected man-pait of the southwestern U.S. and northern Me was made by the Navy from a Viking 12 rock the area of about 600,000 square miles. The activity of the southwest of the source of the source

**Conception Of Satellite** 

said la

### American Scientists Hail Soviet Union's Satellite

ERT BARKDOLL with the International Geophysical is being Year. But it does not expect to four other TON, Oct. 4 (UP) — by until next spring at least. for the I does not extend to four other the sector of the s



N













Space4All Teacher Guide Page 101 of 196























Apollo Crew ..., Edward White, Gus Grissom And Roger Chaffee ..., In Recent Photograph

### Frontier

SAIGON — (AP) — iant U.S. B-52 bombers ined fire bombs on War me "C" today in an at-mpt to burn out the long-bond carofinance of the

ntiown. Mekong Delta, U.S. gunthip helicoptera archlights to track 'let Cong guerrillas about in sampans pe night.

INSIDE

THE NEWS

in the lower country as poor ared the north-

Six weak the last press bra-ollo I Astronau swap quips

prefer not to go like to do."

ed and said. "We will

Then in his Mercury flight, the hatch blew open and Gus had a tough time ke

STORM KILLS 37 IN ILLINOIS



Paul Haney, Hands Clasped, Head Bowed, Answers Questions

# **On Cape Pad**

By WILLIAM TUCKER Executer of The Mami News ials named a board of it deaths of three astronaut e and flames while reheat

investigation. The inquiry board was headed by Dr., director of the space agency's Langley ted. Other members are Max Faget, d eering development at the manned space orge A. White, director of Apollo reliabit Astronaut Frank Bormun and John W of spacecraft operations.

### ARRANGEMENTS NOT COMPLETE

One and a half miles from the scene of the tragedy charred bodies of Virgil L (Gus) Grissom, Edward H te II and Roger B. Chaffee lay in an infirmary. Funeral plans for Grissom, the ebullent member of scene original astronaux, for White the nation?

ington, sa nking Rep

### DEATHS BELIEVED INSTANTANEOUS

Death was believed to have come trapped astronauts. If they had a a grave trouble — believed to hav in electrical fault — they might no

ouast off late in 1966. During the final checkou-ing, many modifications and changes were m many more appear to be ahead. Prediminary examination of the gutted was being made by a ream under Maj. Gen. Sar lips, Apollo program director.

#### PROGRAM WILL GO FORWARD

nan hours in 10 Gemini flig fatalities directly connected

ONLY 218 FEET ABOVE GROUND Then, too, the tragedy occurred in earthl e only 218 feet above the ground where to moonship was being counted down for a i Criteren White and Chicken users to be

aloft in her on Feb. They were 10 r when it happened. as if the rocket as

ey may have gotten out a corr to ency crews swarmed to the top of t ing the Apollo. At least 27 men we Continued on Page 4A, Col. 1

#### OTHER STORIES, PICTURES INSIDE

—Apolla Plagued by Troubles ...... Page 4A —Three Other Spacemen Lost ..... Page 5A

- -World Leaders Mourn Our Loss .... Page 5A Page 44
- Effects On The Space Program
   No Emergency Eccape System
   Cape Kennedy Area Stanned
   Biographies of the Victims
  - Page 5A

0

Back to top

**3 Brave Men** As Newsman **Knew** Them From the beginning of manned space illight Project Mercury. The Mani News has analyzed reporters, Nill Scain and M Polker, to cover the ting events at the Cape. In the following story, year recell source of his personal contacts with the snauts and their families.

By AL VOLKER Science Keller of The Manni News — to the minute — before death st sos briefing they were ever to attend romauts seemed confident, enthusis quips with the newsmen they had con-

of us who o ed on Page 3A, Col. 5

Continued on Page 4A, Col. 1 BA Leyden 7A Sey 11B Mauldin 2A 11A MeGill 2A ins 6A Movies 8A 66 6B Pattern 16B 8 11A Sports 1B ord 10A Steincrohn 3B 10A Steincrohn 3B

timois. Fundama and rechemed an intraged of rechemed and international states of the continue of the continue

Snowed-In Chicago Fights Looters 

One Small Step For Man... One Giant Leap For Mankind



They're Fuzzy And Out Of Focus, But They're Real As McCoy Himself

### WEATHER CITY NEV 1962 PULITZER PRIZE WINNER VOL. 17 - NO. 224 18 Pages SERVICE Panama City, Florida, Monday Morning, July 21, 1969 NEA COMPLETE SERVICE Telephone 763-7621 PRICE 10 CENTS Ne've Done



### Millions Of Floridians Enthralled By Apollo Crew Accomplishments

Jubilant Over Lunar Landing ABOARD USS HORNEP UPD-Salors about this Amb

tailrrobes watched quetty at som Youngsters annihol Florida State Hospital at Chai-Variety Children's Hospital Tainochee as the Junar module s Miami were considerably nue Apollo Recovery Ship Sailors

Society

Bookmakers

Pay Off Bet On Moon Walk

Index

Comics Coming Events Editorial

Luna 15 Goal

Footprints On The Moon

And The World Saw Them



54

he soil of an alien 'It's Fantastic,' ...Panama City IN DOROTHY BEANLAND

expessful contain

(Turn to FANTASTIC, Page 3)

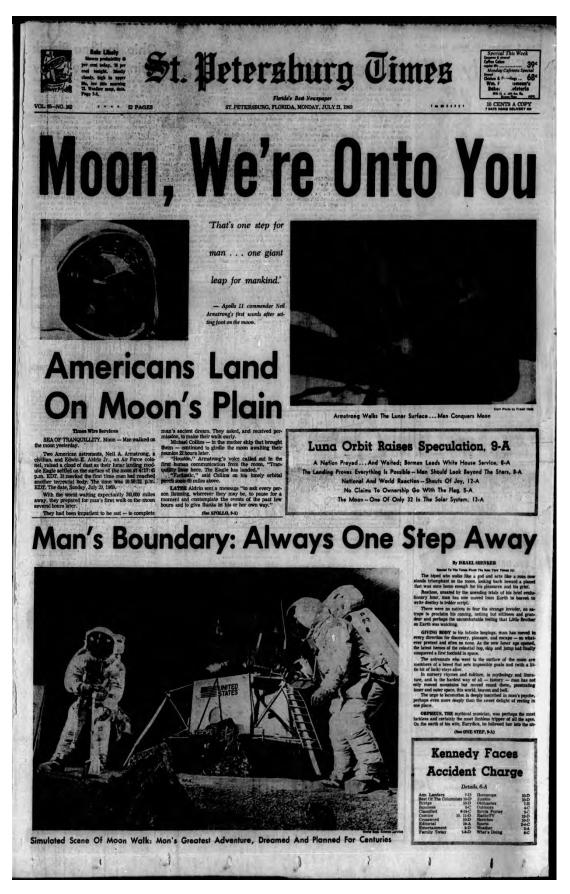
Back to top

### Space4All Teacher Guide Page 113 of 196

**Experts Still Puzzled** Over







Space4All Teacher Guide Page 116 of 196









WILLIAM TUCKER

as Alfred M. Gomez, 190 W. 53rd Ter., and companion, Terry A. ald, 16, of 565 W. 51st lding DJ, both of HiaCounty side of Gomez, on and Metro died

Student unrest at U-M

**Ombudsmen** move called stall



Back to top

### Space4All Teacher Guide Page 120 of 196

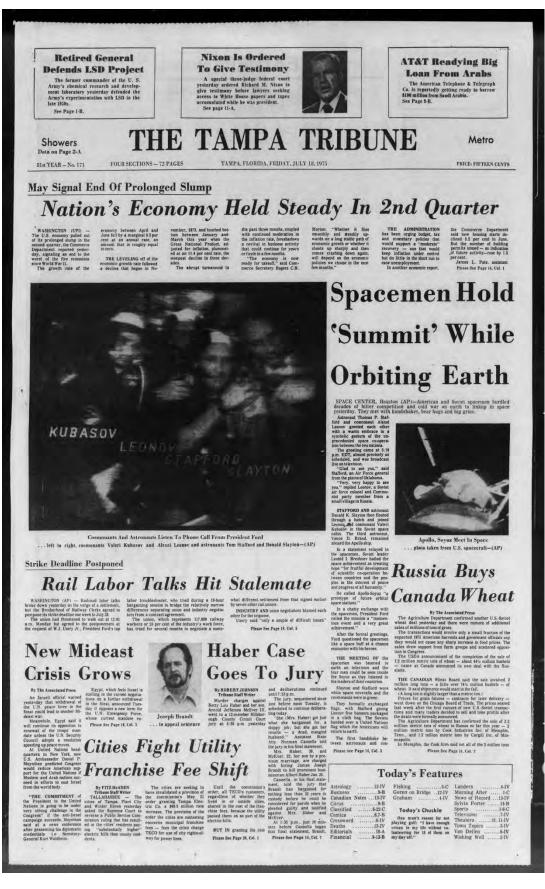


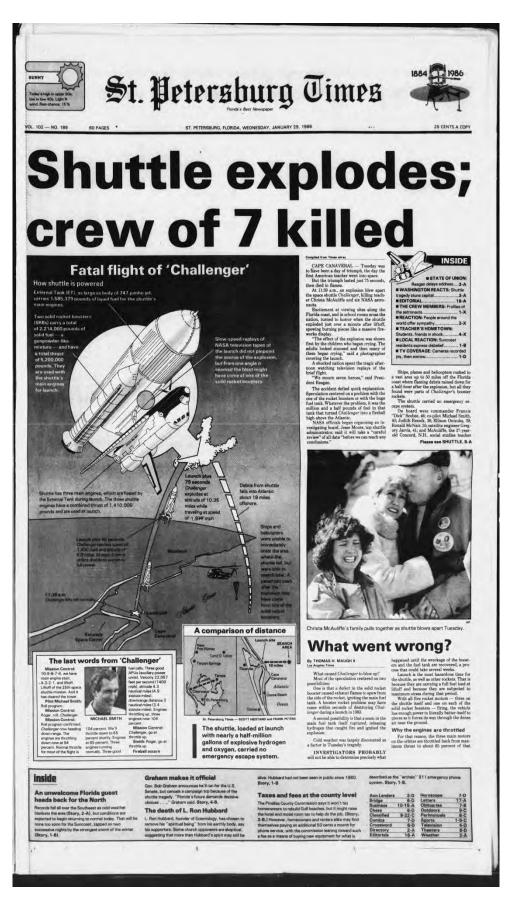




Space4All Teacher Guide Page 123 of 196













Pathfinder's camera shows rover Sojourner sitting on a ramp above deflated balloons and a rocky surface to the horiz

urs, it began

descent and landed intact Cocooned in airbags, the craft smacked the surfat bounced at least three to heights of at least 50 feet, pre-data showed. Within hours, beaming back a stream of c

■ The craft successfully lands on the Red Planet and returns vivid images of its rock strewn resting place.

ad is hiding that knowledge of e Pentagon tried to read last rites on owell myth last week with an an-ement that there was no spaceship, eventment autopises of alien bodies. It est an Air Force parachule and some del anthropomorphic dummies. a believers in the Roswell incident

on the

de Douglas awaits her turn in a ostume contest in Roswell, N.M., where thousands gather to mark an nniversary. Story, 5A PASADENA, Calif. — The Path-finder spacecraft streaked through the thin Martian atmosphere Friday and bounced to a safe and surprising-ly smooth night landing on a boulder-strewn field, becoming the first eraft to set down on the dusty red soil of to set down on the dusty red soil of in 21 yea

Shouts of "We're there!" went up m relieved controllers at NASA's Propulsion Laboratory as the first pail arrived at mission control out 1:07 p.m. EDT, confirming that Pathfinder and a robot explorer board had survived a perilous

tract the

Controllers at NASA's Jet Propu announced its Fourth landing on Mars.

### Mexico aims for grown-up democracy

Please see MARS 14A

By DAVID ADAMS

after 68 years of virtual one-Mexico is on the brink of ge

Stretching h raft and l

Astrology E Bridge D Business 1-4 Classified F Comics D Croseword B Deaths 4A Editoriate 164

port of fake Van Ge

A leading art journ than 100 painting attributed to Vinco may be fakes. 2A nages of bomber





lay up for INDEX

ANALYSIS Tens use Avainst Gerupsedet
MEXICO CITY — This week in Hong
Kong, the world winnessed a standing
Kang, the world winnessed a standing
Kang, the world winnessed a standing
Kang, the world winnessed a standing
Kang of the Archive could this stamber
and world be served child, predtay, but ag
the server child is longest-gerver to be manbered for the market
Mexico City
ways Homero Arkigs, one of Mexico?

"This is the end of a political cycle," "Says Homero Aridjis, one of Mexico's foremost authors and an outspoken critic of the PRI. "In times of eruption the gods instruct."

2





he spends his 47th day ed of terrorist ties. 18

Yeltsin claims gains President Boris Yeltsin ce the end of the first year of ond term with claims of ec growth for Russia 2A

in cancer vacci













Space4All Teacher Guide Page 133 of 196



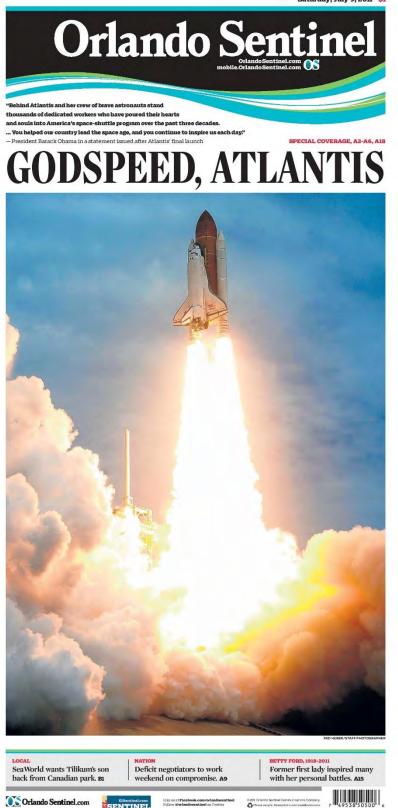




<u>Back to top</u>

Product: OS44Broadsheet PubDate: 07-09-2011 Zone: FLA Edition: ROP Page: A\_F User: wmzimmerman Time: 07-08-2011 23:46 Color: K









**Cirque Italia** brings unique show to town

INSIDE TGIF

FLORIDATODAY.COM

### **Beachside: Boil your water** The boil water area encor

'Sizable' line break raises alert for Satellite Beach, South Patrick Shores

Rick Neale | FLORIDA TODAY USA TODAY NETWORK - FLORIDA

The city of Melbourne has The city of Melbourne has declared a beachside boil water alert for residents and busi-nesses from DeSoto Parkway in Satellite Beach northward to the Pineda Causeway in South Patrick Shores Patrick Sho

A "sizable" beachside water line break was reported Thurs-day morning. Utility workers later discovered water leaking into a storm drain near South Patrick Drive and Jackson Ave-nue in Satellite Beach, said Cheryl Mall, Melbourne city spokesworman. The boil water area encom-passes the northern two-thirds of Satellite Beach, population (JoSe, South Patrick Shores is an unincorporated community of nearly 6,000 people, extend-ing roughly north of Satellite Beach's Shearwater Parkway neighborhoods to the Pineda cusseway. The boil water notice is affecting 5,000 to 6,000 bouse-holds and businesses, Mall spokeswoman. Crews confirmed that a 12-inch water main had broken. Crews isolated the broken pipe by 4 p.m., and repairs were ex-pected to begin about 5, Mall said.

See BOIL WATER, Page 10A



A city of Melbourne compact excavator is parked at the suspected water main leak site at South Patrick Shores and Jackson Avenue in Satellite Beach. Rick NFAIE / FLORIDA TODAY

# China lands spacecraft on far side of moon - a first

<text><text><text><text><text><text>

inader. In year-end wrap-ups, Chinese media and officials halled the Dec. Blaunch of Chang'e 4 as one of the nation's major achievements in 2018. The landing on Thursday was announced to the public by state broadcaster CCTV at the top of the public by the public by

See MOON, Page 4A

USA TODAY

Graduation rate at BPS at a high

Data shows students graduating at highest rate in five years. 3A

### New Year's shooting sparked chaos, terror

Satellite Beach man says infidelity led to backvard rampage in Melbourne

Lamaur Stancil FLORIDA TODAY USA TODAY NETWORK - FLORIDA



<text>

shoot ..." In the background, Stillwell tells someone to shoot him in the head. After his arrest, Stillwell, 39, of

After his arrest, Stillwell, 39, of the 400 block of Red Sail Way, Sat-ellite Beach, told Melbourne police he was upset about infidelity, ac-cording to an affidavit released Thursday. He said he watched a video on a phone of a worgan. From whom he

He said he watched a video on a phone of a woman, from whom he had separated Dec. 28, and his best friend having sex. Officers said the statement was part of several random utterances, in-cluding several calling the woman a derogatory name.

See SHOOTING, Page 10A



Weather

Above: The Chang'e 4 lunar probe launches from the Xichang Satellite Launch Center in southwestern China's Sichwan province Dec. 8. The official China Central Television says Thursday that the lunar explorer Chang'e 4 had touched down at 10:26 a.m. to make the first-ever landing on the far side of the moon. JUNG ICREARS ( AP

Left: The first image of the moon's far side is taken by China's Chang'e-4 probe. The Chinese spacecraft made the historic landing on the far side of the moon Thursday. AP



### rlando Sentinel FINAL EDITION Friday, January 4, 2019



nd kids related to lawmakers, raises her hand as Rep. Do For the first time in

Chang'e-4, carrying a 300-pound lunar rover with

Chang'e-4, carrying a 300-pound lunar rover with probes and spectrometers, tou-ched down in the Yon Karman Grater in the South Pole-Aitken Basin, according to the China Na-tional Space Administration, which published a color photo-graph of the moor's smooth sur-face, a crater and the dark hori-

Please tura to MOON. 44 YOUR NATION, YOUR WORLD

### House speaker welcomes diverse freshmen intent on battling Trump

BY LISA MASCARO | Associated Press tution" to provide checks and balances

China sheds light on 'dark' side of moon

Tablish a manaed moon base and tablish a manaed moon base and time of new labore de neckes to colonize and explois space. No nation has ever landed a lunar lander on the fars side of the moon, a mission complicated by direct communications with direct communications with direct communications with signs to scientists.

WASHINGTON ng Democrats re-l Nancy Pelosi to the c speaker's post day as the ll6th Con-ushered in a historishman class eager to nt Donald Trump in a ment. ook the gavel nded a new on that swept majority and of our Consti-

By ROBYN DIXON

BELIING – China's Chang'e-4 mar lander touched down on he far side of the moon Thursday torning Beijing time, the latest illestone marking the nation's

nation's a global ists have already tution" to provide checks and tatances on prover. Pelosi facel IG dissenting works from follow Zenearcents. But for a face hours, smiles and backslapping were the order of the day. The new specific rimited scores of lawmakers' laids to join her on Houses to order 'non tehebalf' of all of America's children". Even 'Trump congranulated her dar-ing a rare appearance at the White House bording room, saying her elec-tion by House colleagues was "a Please turn to HOUSE, A8



The sign at the office suite of House Speaker Nancy Pelosi of California is installed on Capitol Hill on Thursday.

### Private school reinstated in state scholarships program

BY ANNIE MARTIN Orlando Sentinel

Prosecutors seek execution Saudi Arabia announced it will seek the death penalty against five suspects in the slaying of Khashoggi. A3 Age sometimes a factor in refuge The US government says some immigrant youth a cations for green cards are rejected because of age. American charged with espionage Russia has formally charged an alleged American spy, possibly deepening diplomatic tensions with the U.S. A THE WORLD'S LARGEST Collector Car Auction TEN AUCTIONS JANUARY 3-13, 2019 • 3,500 VEHICLES **EVERYONE WELCOME** \$30 DAILY GENERAL ADMISSION THE EXPERIENCE BEGINS AT MEGUM.COM A NBCSN 7 49538 50500

0

The state Department of Edu cation booted Elite Preparator Academy from the scholarshi An Orange County private school will be allowed to continue receiving state-backed schol arships after terminating a man convieted of manslaughter it ha hired to teach mixed martial ars fighting to subsetts.

years, U.S. Senate will

not have a local voice

Orthold Stanlind For the first time in years, Central Elorida won't be the home base for a ULS Senator Just a decade ago, Orlando was home to not one but vo ULS Senators, with Democrat Bill Nelson and Republican Mel Martinei, Elinor jusa 7 ew blocks from each other in the neighborhood of Baldwin Park, "The Jubla: manager was always "The Jubla: manager was always

BY STEVEN LEMONGELLO Orlando Sentinel

Please turn to SENATE. A8





### Ingenuity successfully achieves first flight on Mars

NASA official: 'This really is a Wright Brothers moment'

Rachael Joy

Florida Today USA TODAY NETWORK - FLORIDA

Ingenuity is the little Martian helicopter that could and did.

Ingenity is the little Martian helicopter that could and did. On Monday, NASA's Ingenuity Mars Helicopter devices the strengt in history to make a provide of the strength of

See INGENUITY, Page 11A

MORE INSIDE

Weather looks good for NASA and SpaceX's Crew-2 launch. **3A** 



orates first on Monday The Ingenuity helice flight at Jet Propuls tory

PLANE PREPARED FOR TRANSPORT BACK HOME



This TBM Avenger was forced to land "due to engine failure," according to Valiant Air Command in a statement posted to Facebook on Sunday. Workers lifted the plane off the trailer Monday morning to try to fold the right wing, which was full of wet sand. MACIAN DENTRANT, JOSEA TO ADV

### **No-appointment COVID vaccine** effort draws fewer than expected

Supply of inoculations exceeds demand in first 4 days of program

#### Dave Berman

Florida Today USA TODAY NETWORK – FLORIDA

Usa Took HENDOR - HORBA The Florida Department of Health's first local ef-fort at no -appointment, drive-firu COVID-19 vacci-nations received a less-than-overwhelming re-The Health Department had enough saccines and staffig to administer as many as 7,300 doeses in Viena during the first four days of the program – from Thursday through Sunday. But just 1,680 people took davantage of the opportunity and received the first of two required doeses of the Moderna vaccine. The mumber prepresents less than a quarter – only 23% – of the capacity of the sessions, which ran for three hours each day on Thursday and Friday, and for I hours each on Saturday and Sunday.

We were surprised at the low number of shots distributed. We put shots into every arm that came by."

Don Walker Brevard County Come

"We were surprised at the low number of shots dis-tributed," Brevard County Communications Director no Walker said Monday. "We put shots into every arm that came by," but the supply exceeded demand. Department of Health data indicates that most Bre-vard County resident low on ty treeview a vaccine. So the leveling of demand range be are ding in efforts to the leveling of demand range be are ding in efforts.

See VACCINES, Page 10A







**Former Vice** President Walter Mondale dies at 93 PAGE 2A

Dump trucks a dilemma for Burnt Store Road residents PAGE 1B

EMS: Man injured, dog dies in Punta Gorda crash PAGE 2B

TUESDAY, APRIL 20, 2021 YOURSUN.COM \$1.50

## Anti-riot bill signed into law They didn't handle it so there may '

Law goes into effect immediately; DeSantis cites Chauvin trial

By BRENDAN FARRINGTON ASSOCIATED PRESS

TALLAHASSEE — Florida's top Republicans cited events in cities around the country

-but not the Jan. & riots in Washington -- as Gov. Ron DeSantis signed a bill Monday to create toughter penalties for people who participate in violent protests. The so-called approximate source the source of the source of police violence against African-Americans. After the Jan. 6 insurrection at the U.S. Capitol by supporters of then President Donald Trumy. Republicans

pushing the legislation used it as an example to support the effort. But the Capitol riots weren't mentioned as the bill was signed by DeSantis, who criticized the Minnesota attorney general at the same time classing arguments were trial of former Minneapolis wellse Others Henry Chapting

trial of former Minneapolis police Officer Derek Chauvin in the death of George Floyd, the Black man who died after

Murder case against ex-cop in Floyd's death goes to the jury. See page 5A

They didn't handle it properly, so there may be some people disappointed," DeSantis said. Opponents of the bill said it was a racist reaction to a problem that hasn't occurred in Elorida. They saw it as an attempt to squash the voltes of groups like Black Lives Matter "Not only is this racist at its core, but it a also a reaction to what occurred over the

SEE BILL 5A

### Sheriff: Eight tried to steal \$4M in CARES funds

Port Charlotte resident charged with attempting to defraud more than \$50K By MORGAN SIMPSON STAFF WRITER

STAFF WRITE SARASOTA — Eight area rasidents are facing a variety of charges after allegoid) attempting to staff and the staff and the staff and the mathematications to the CARGS Act tast as facted approximation that and the staff and approximation attemption of the staff and the st

SEE STEAL 4A



Sheriff Kurt Hoffman announced an investigation Monday into SRQ Financial Solutions that authorities said stopped \$4.1 million in CARES Act fraud.



NASA's experimental Mars helicopter Ingenuity lands Monday on the surface of Mars.

NASA's Mars helicopter Ingenuity makes history By MARCIA DUNN AP AEROSPACE WRITER

CAPE CANAVERAL. — NASA's experimen-tal helicopter ingenuity rose into the thin air above the dusty red surface of Mars on Monday, achieving the first powered flight by an aircraft on another planet. The triumph was halfed as a Wright brothers moment. The mini 4-pound copter even carried a bit of wing fabric from the Wright Fiyer thar made similar bistory at Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, in 1963.



SEE PLANET, 4A The experimental Mars helicopter Ingenuity casts a shadow Monday as it hovers above the surface of the planet.

## Should masks be required in schools next year?

Sarasota will discuss it today By SUE ERWIN and OLIVIA CAMERON

STAFF WRITER Will Sarasota and Charlotte county students and leachers be required to wear masks in the fall? Florida's education

commissioner asked super-intendents across the state to update their policies to make fa-cial coverings voluntary rather than mandarof, for students, teachers and staff in upcoming school year. In ameno sent Thursday, Richard Corcoran Proven hat one size fils-all policies do not meet the unique needs of Individual students or their families."

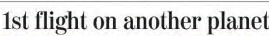
Corcoran also claimed that data shows mask policies don't effect the spread of the virus and "serve no remaining good at this point in our schools." His memo didn't tile any particular data to back up the claim, which goes against guidance from the Centers for batt me Control and Psehools and School and Psehools and School and Psehools - along with social distancing and frequent hand-washing

— is essential to stopping the spread. Corcoram, who was appointed on DeSantis' recommendation, said masks may "unintentifonal-ly create a barrier" for students and families who would other wise choose in person instruc-ing the second state of the second barrier of the second second second main second second second second wording, the memo said masks may impede instruction for students with disabilities and

those who speak English as a second language because they benefit from seeing a teacher's face and mouth. "Right now, our schools are safer than the communities at large." Corooran wrote, "This safety record should only increase next school year with he increased availability of vaccines."

SEE MASKS 5A

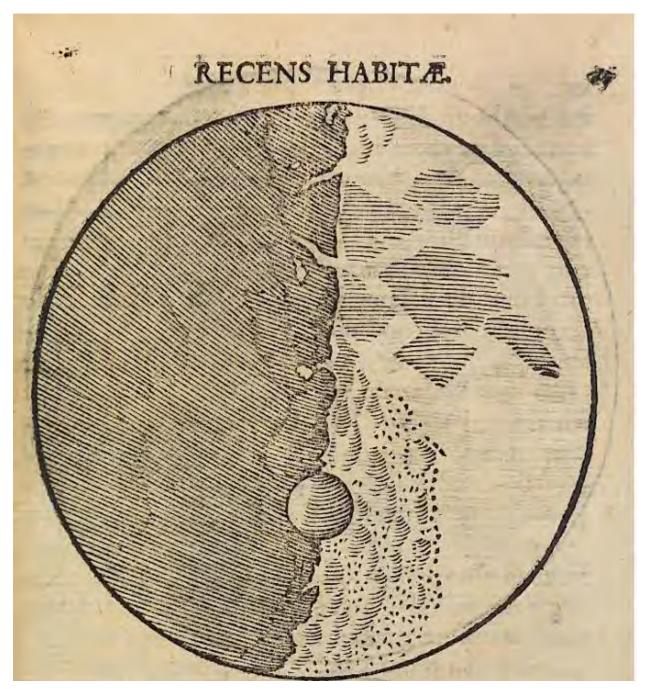




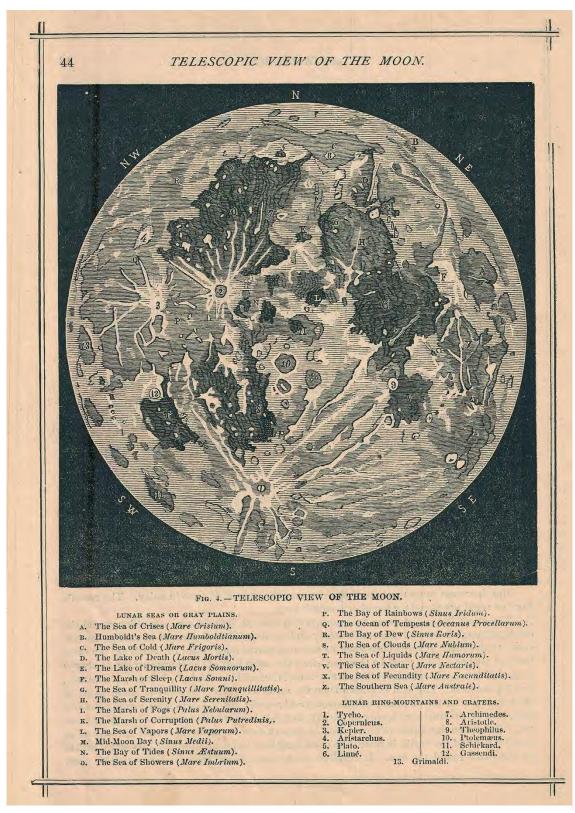
Chauvin put a knee on his neck for almost 10 minutes. "I don't know what's going to happen, but I can tell you that case was bungled by the attor-ney general there in Minnesota.

INSIDE

# **Appendix 4: Maps**



Map of Moon's surface by Galileo (1564-1642), drawn using a telescope the astronomer had built himself. The uneven line of shadow aided Galileo in identifying the nature of the Moon's surface and the approximate size of its mountains. First published in Galileo's *Sidereus Nuncius* (The Starry Messenger) in 1610.



1886 Telescopic View and Map of the Moon (unknown). Wikimedia Commons/Geographicus Rare Antique Maps



Section 1 of the 1910 map of the moon publication by Walter Goodacre, British Astronomical Association. Space.com/University College London

Apollo 11 JUL 69 Mare Tranquillitatis 0.67416°N 23.47314°E LM: 21.6 hours EVA: 2.5 hours

Apollo 12 NOV 69 Oceanus Procellarum 3.0128°S 23.4219°W LM: 31.5 hours EVA: 7.8 hours

Apollo 14 FEB 71 Fra Mauro Highlands 3.64589°S 17.47194°W LM: 33.5 hours EVA: 9.4 hours

Apollo 15 AUG 71 Hadley Rille 26.13239°N 3.63330°E LM: 66.9 hours EVA: 19.1 hours

Apollo 16 APR 72 Descartes Highlands 8.9734°S 15.5011°E LM: 71.0 hours EVA: 20.2 hours

Apollo 17 DEC 72 Taurus-Littrow Valley 20.1911°N 30.7655°E LM: 75.0 hours EVA: 22.1 hours

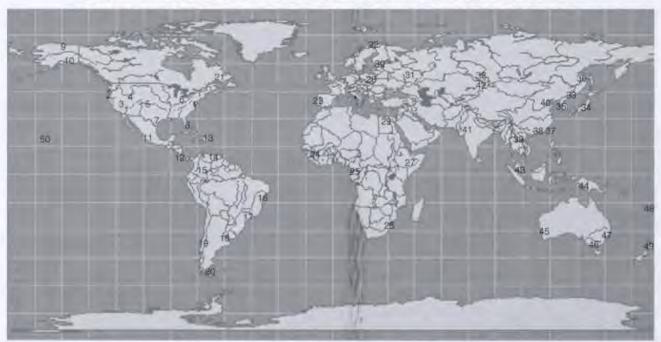


Map of Apollo mission landing sites. NASA



Each point of light on this map represents 2,500 people or 427 family units per km2, plus or minus 5%. Light from moving trains, planes, cars, boats, and water and full moon reflections were removed. The satellite data used to make this image were collected by the Westinghouse broad-band visible to near infrared optical sensor. Between fall 1994 and spring 1995, the sensor collected data during 231 ascending polar orbital paths.

# Night Lights of Urban City Development



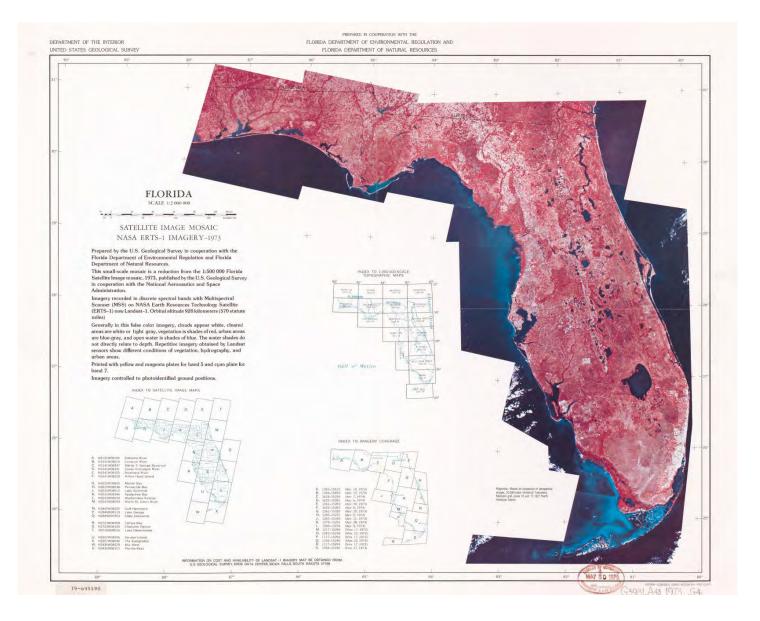
- 1. Washington, DC
- 2. Seattle, Washington
- 3. Reno, Nevada
- 4. Denver, Colorado
- 5. Kansas City, Kansas
- 6. Detroit, Michigan
- 7. San Antonio, Texas
- 8. Miami, Florida
- 9. Fairbanks, Alaska
- 10. Anchorage, Alaska
- 11. Mexico City, Mexico
- 12. Panama City, Panama
- 13. San Juan, Puerto Rico
- 14. Caracas, Venezuela
- 15. Bogata, Columbia
- 16. Salvador, Brazil
- 17. Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

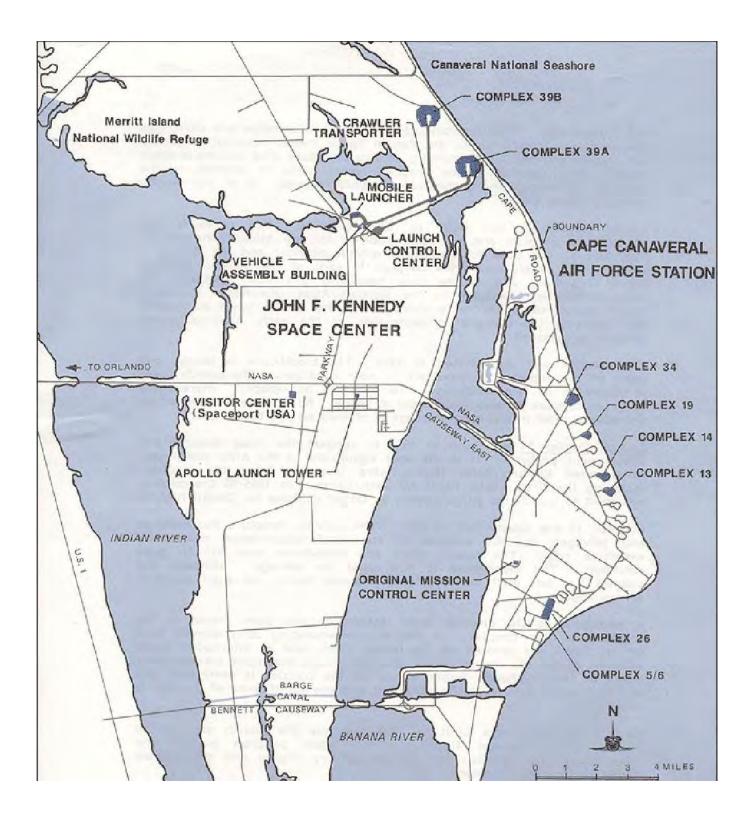
- 18. Buenos Aires, Argentina
- 19. Santiago, Chile
- 20. Punta Arenas, Chile
- 21. Montreal, Quebec
- 22. Hammerfest, Norway
- 23. Lisbon, Portugal
- 24. Freetown, Sierra Leone
- 25. Molabo, Cameroon
- 26. Johannesburg, South Africa
- 27. Harer, Ethiopia
- 28. Warsaw, Poland
- 29. Cairo, Egypt
- 30. Helsinki, Finland
- 31. Moscow, Russia
- 32. Novosibirsk, Russia
- 33. Vladivostok, Russia
- 34. Tokyo, Japan

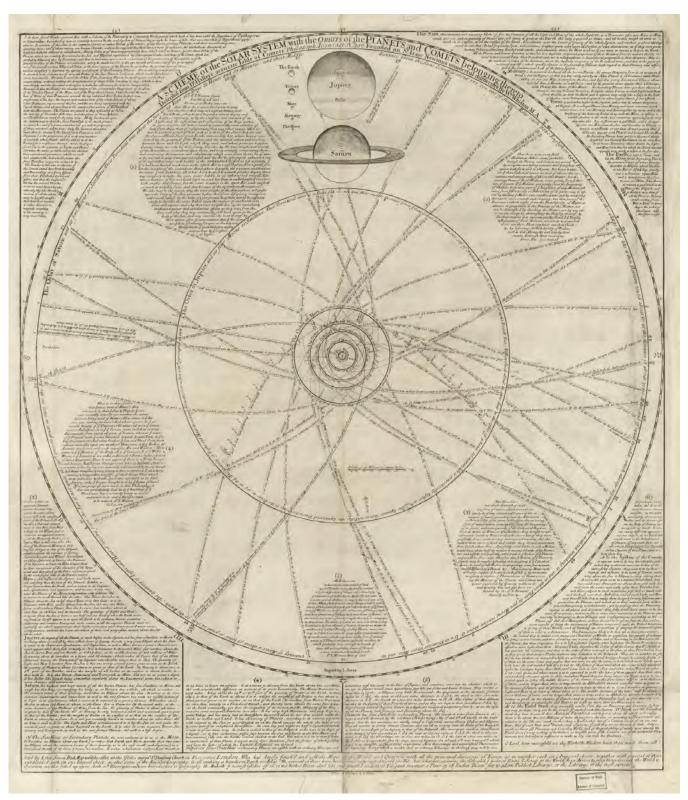
- 35. Seoul, South Korea
- 36. Nikolayevsk, Russia
- 37. Taipei, Taiwan
- 38. Hong Kong, China
- 39. Hanoi, Vietnam
- 40. Beijing, China
- 41. Ahmadabad, India
- 42. Almaty, Kazakhstan
- 43. Singapore, Malasia
- 44. Papua New Guinea
- 45. Perth, Australia
- 46. Melborne, Australia
- 47. Sydney, Australia
- 48. Suva, Fiji
- 49. Wellington, New Zealand
- 50. Honolulu, Hawaii



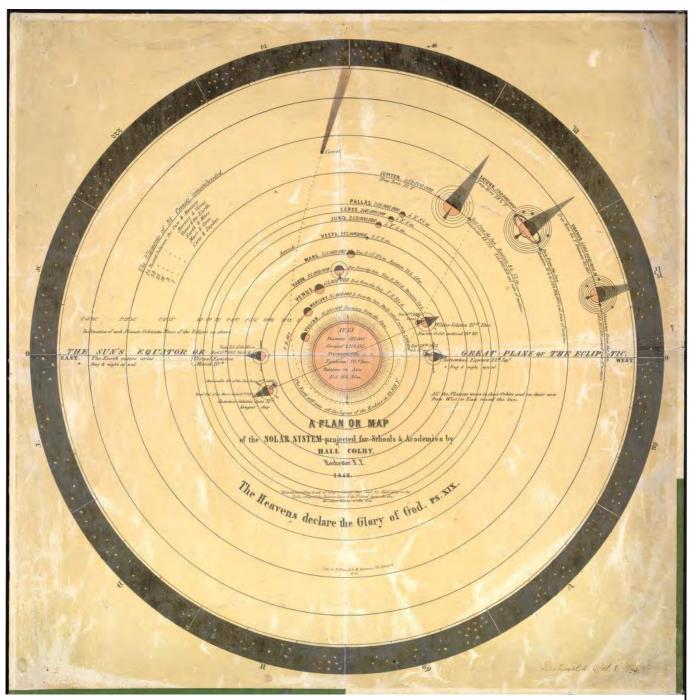
This map is a compilation of satellite images from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the National Geographical Data Center (NGDC) and the Defense Meteorological Satellite Program (DMSP) that show the continental United States at night. The image of the U.S. nighttime lights was derived from cloud-free portions of 231 orbits (October 1994 - March 1995) of DMSP Operational Linescan System (OLS) data.







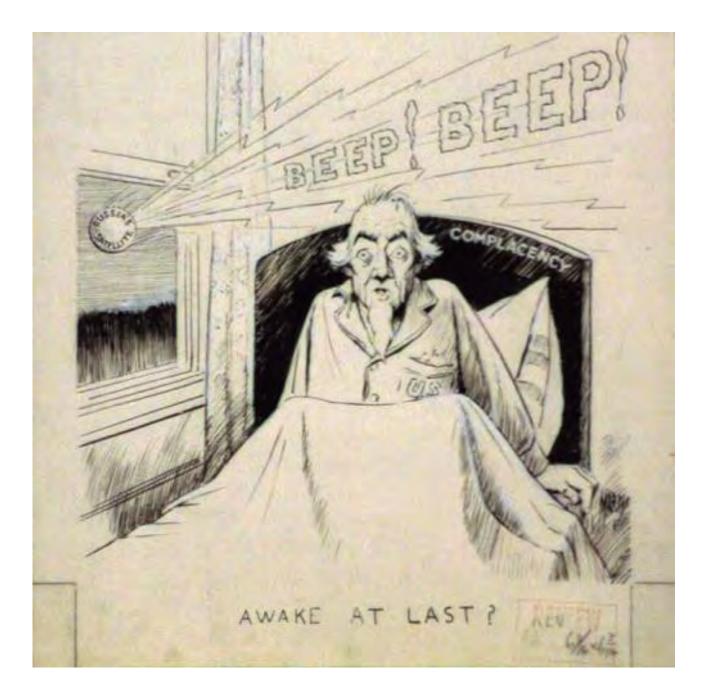
A scheme of the Solar system with the orbits of the planets and comets belonging thereto. William Whiston and John Senex, 1720. Library of Congress

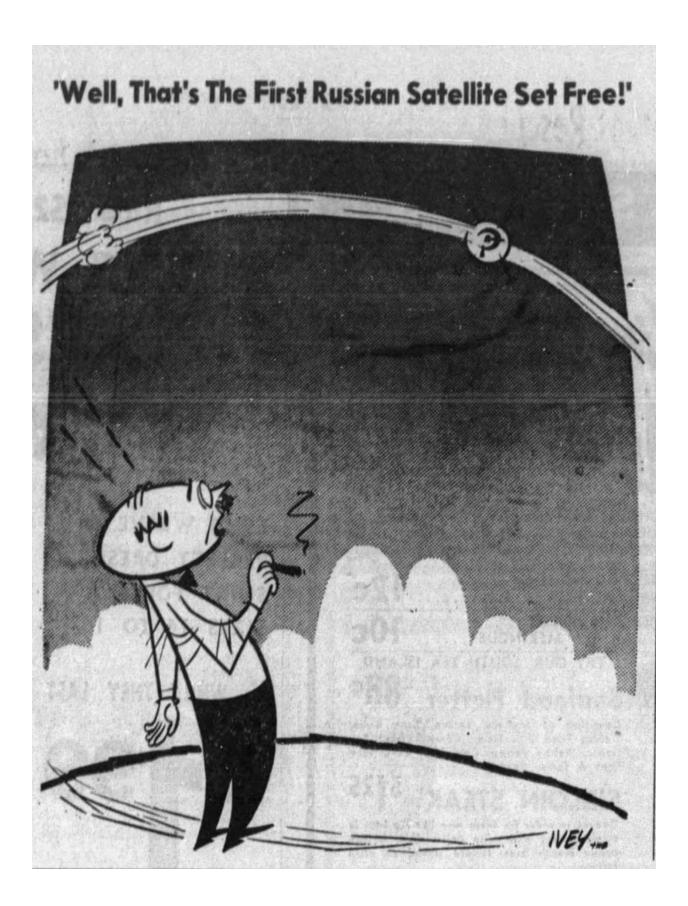


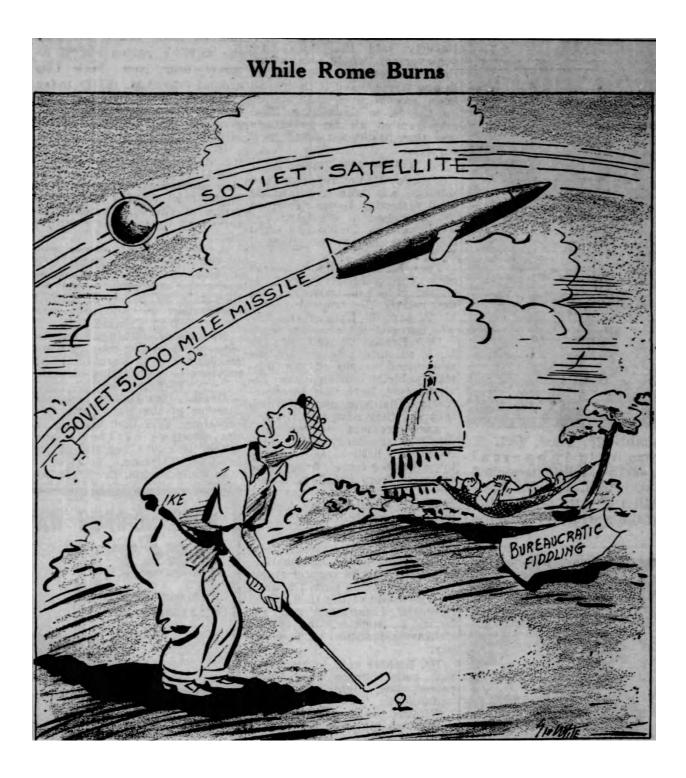
A plan or map of the Solar System projected for schools & academies, Colby, Hall, and Jones & Newman, 1846. Library of Congress

# Appendix 5: Editorial cartoons

# Sputnik



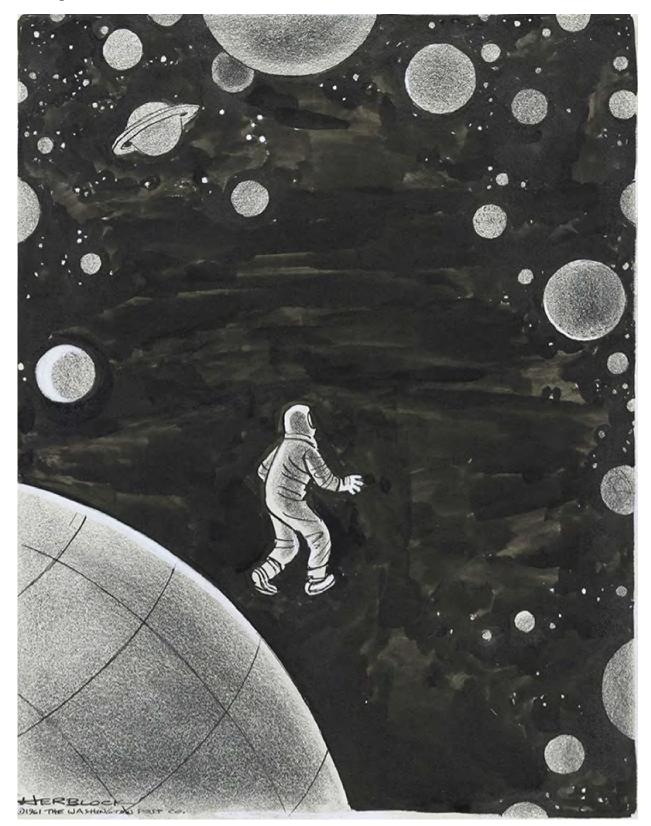


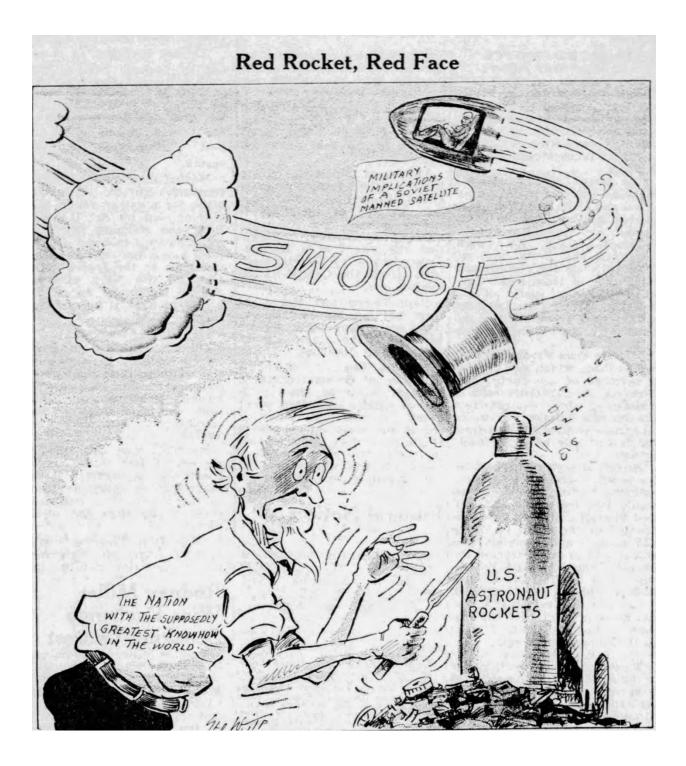


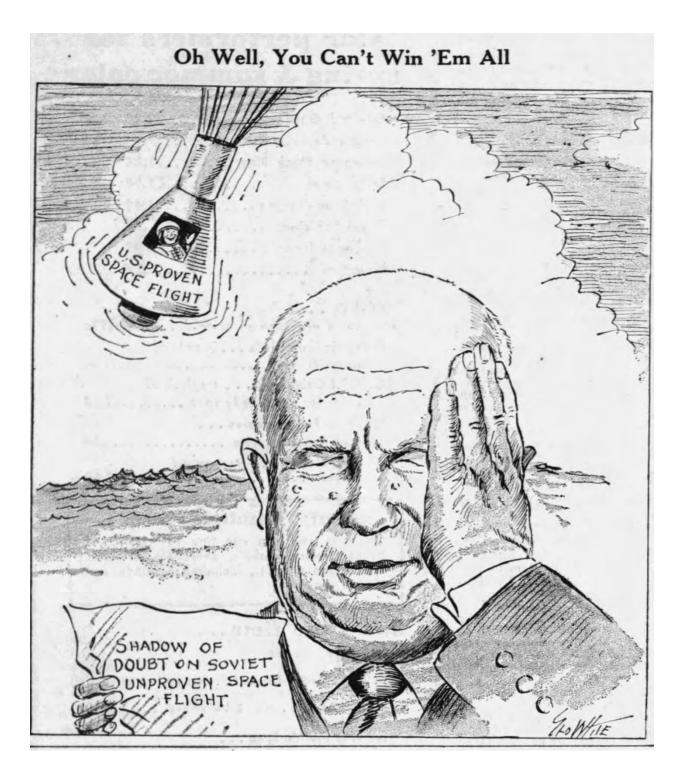




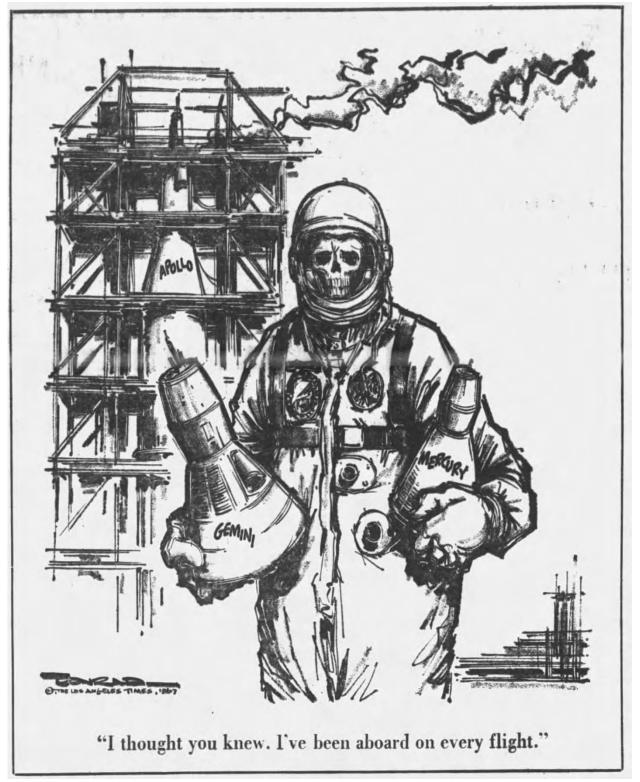
# Yuri Gagarin

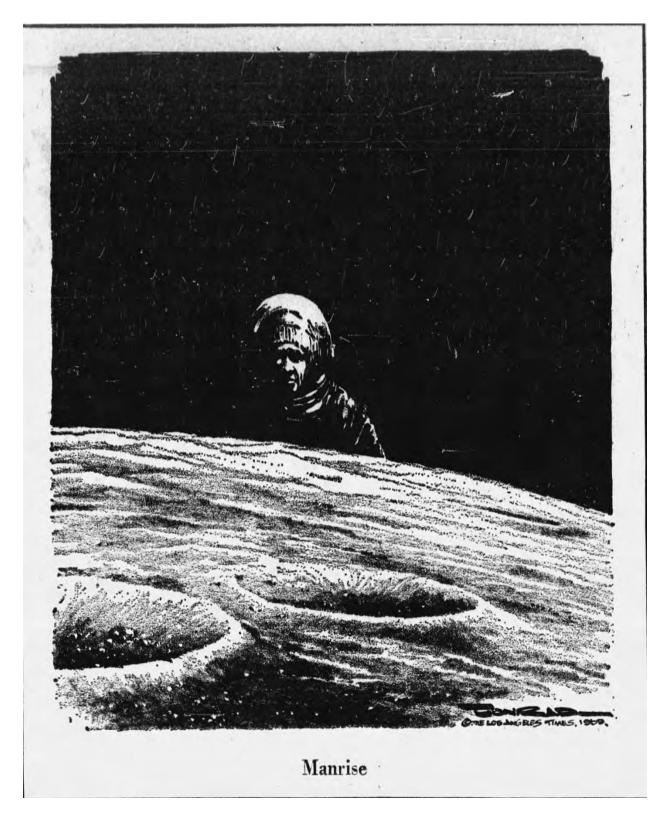














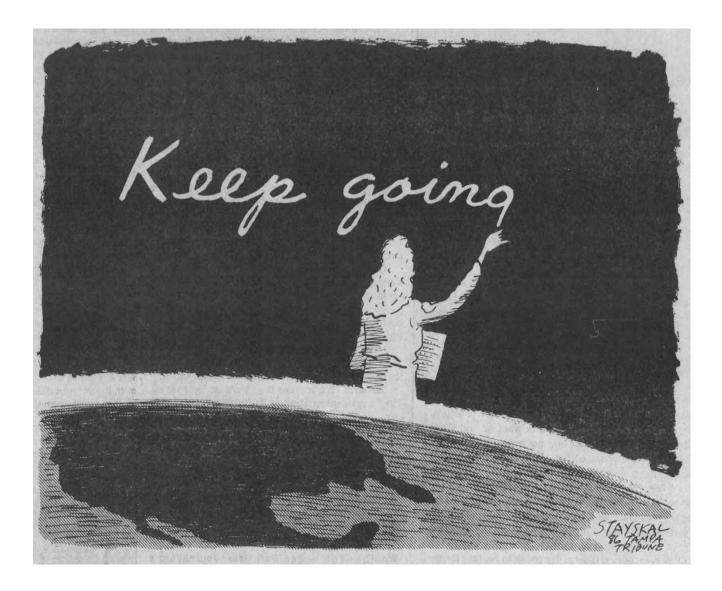




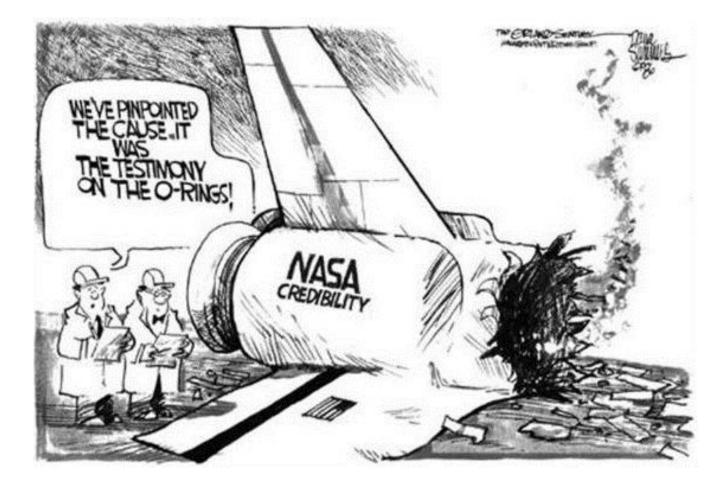
### Challenger

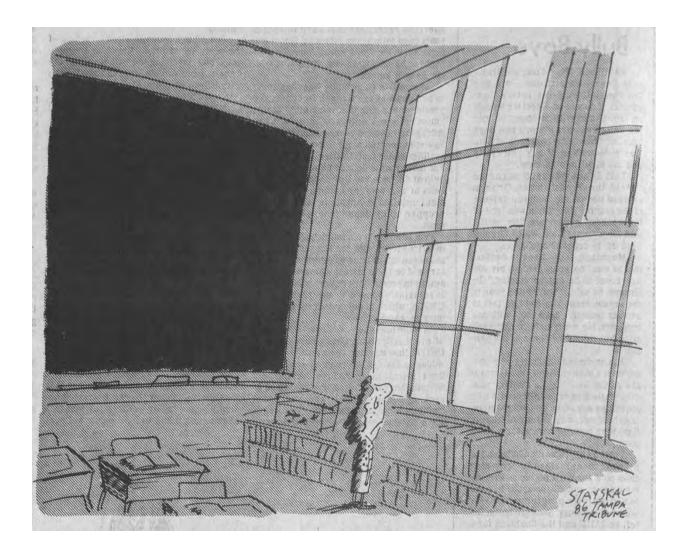




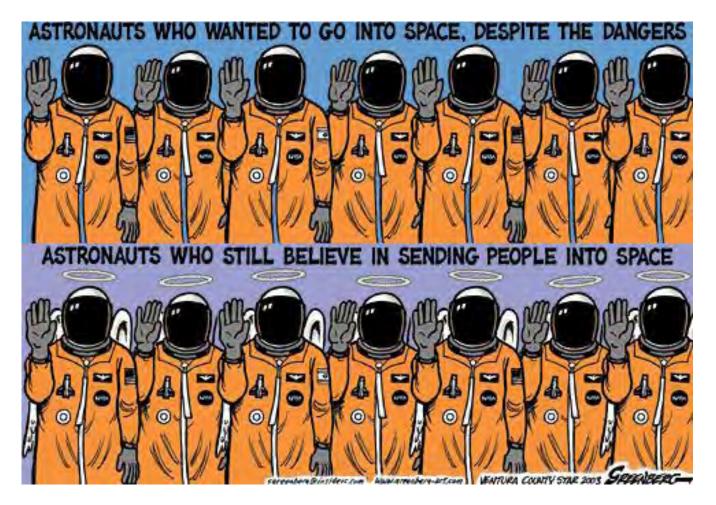






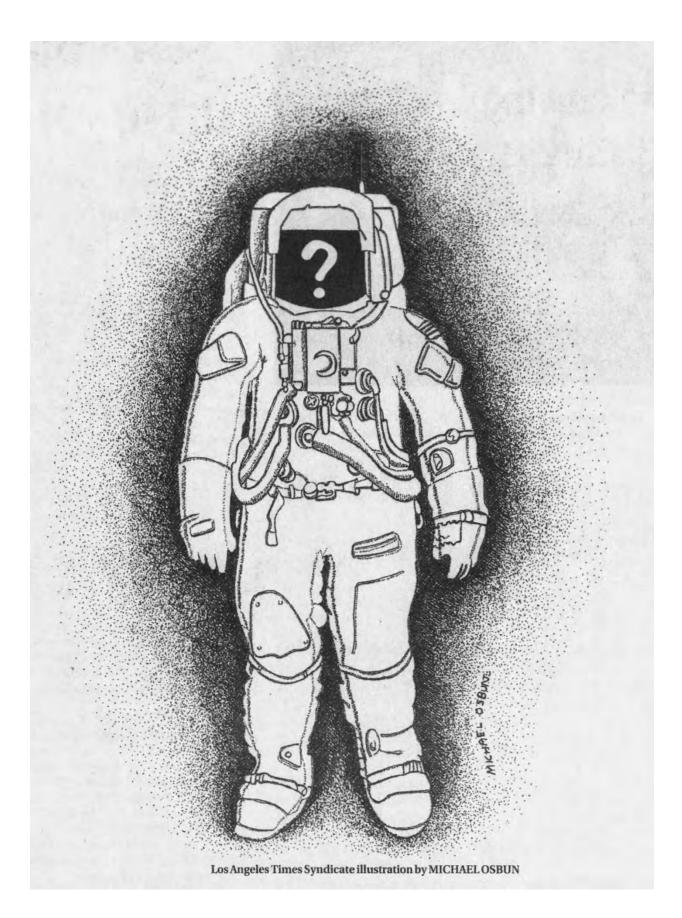


#### Columbia





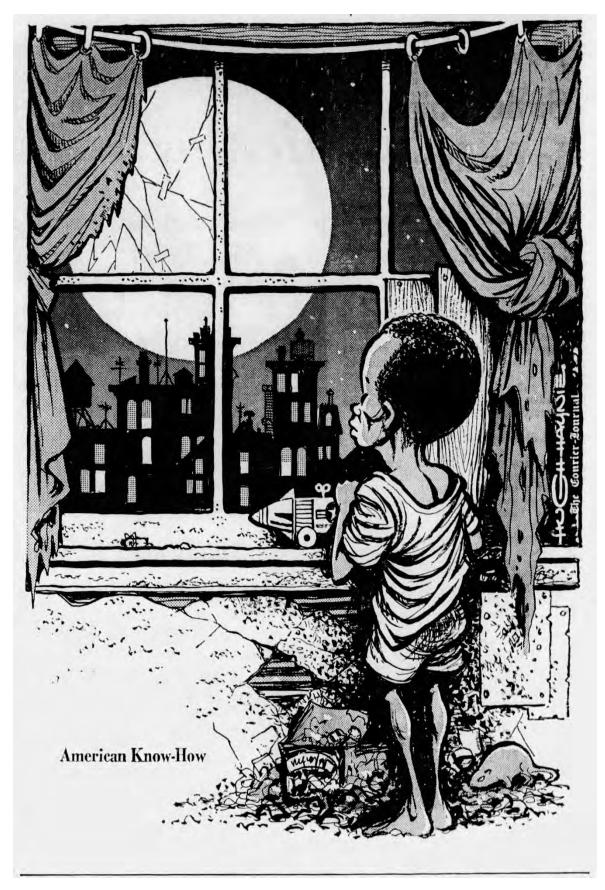




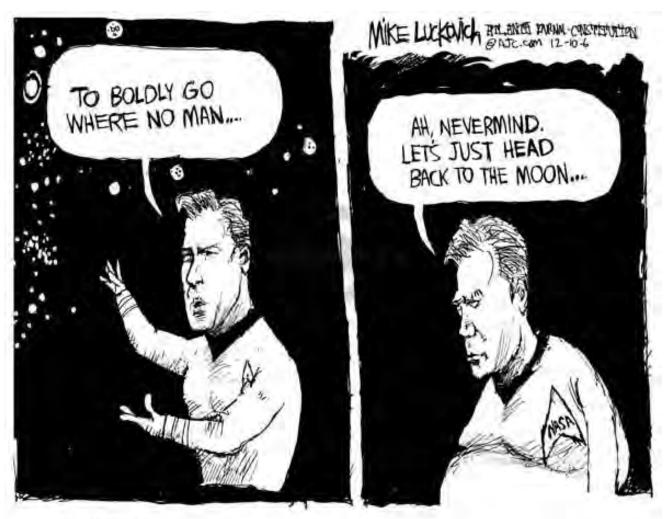


#### Economics of space





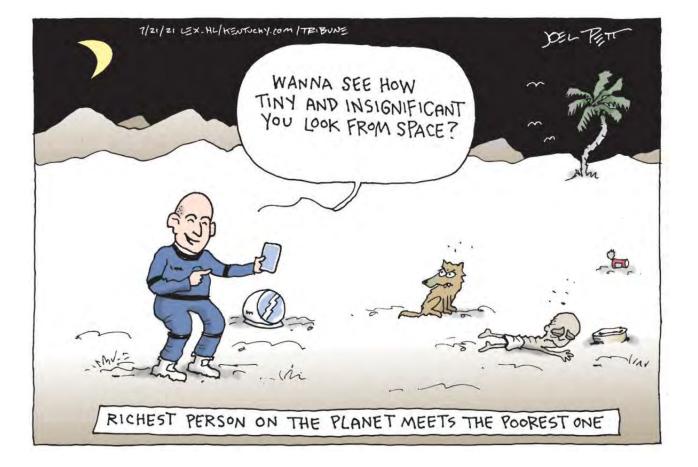




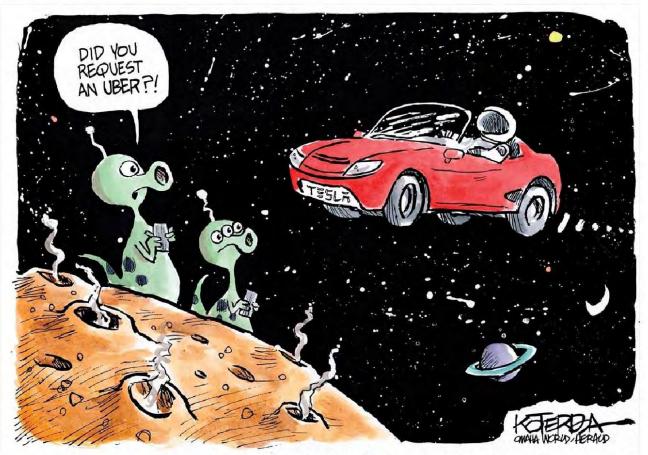
Copyrigh) Mike Luckovich.

# Commercial Space Flight is HERE!





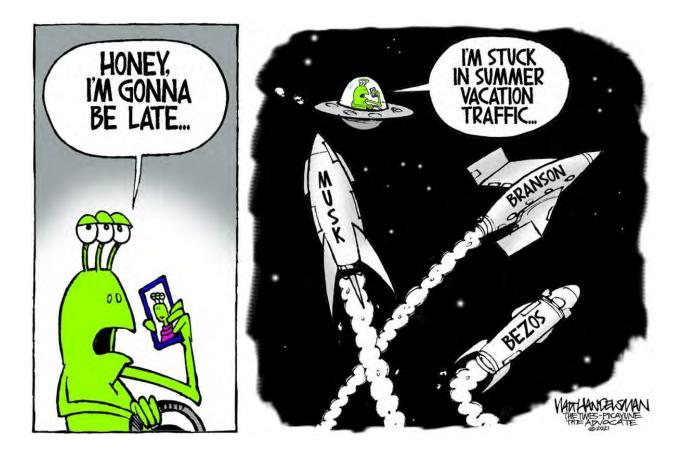
### **Privatization of space**

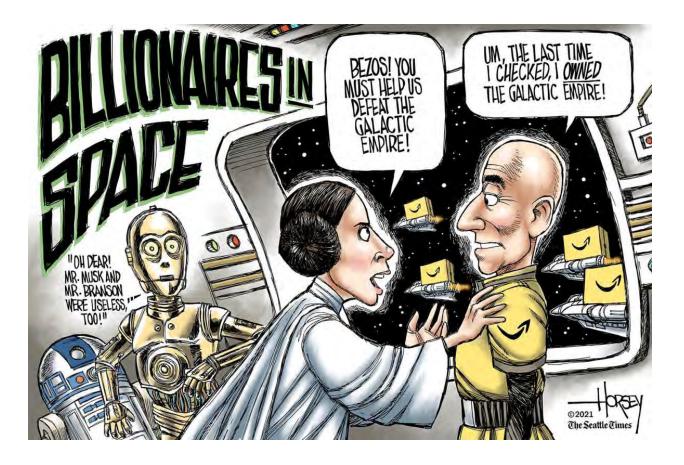


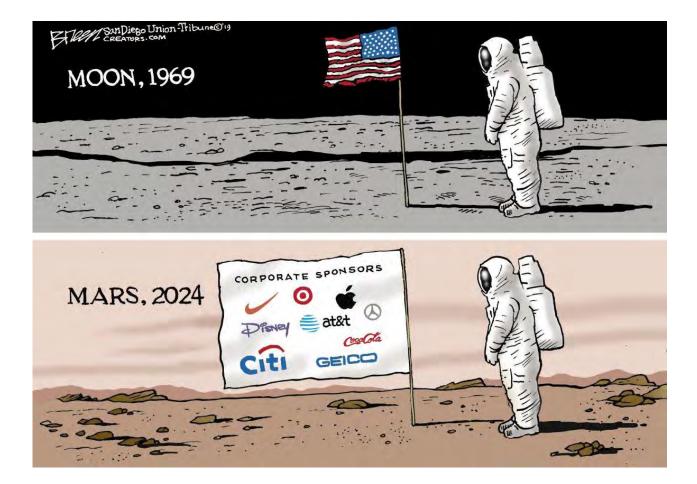
Jeffrey Koterba, Omaha World-Herald / Courtesy of Cagle.com



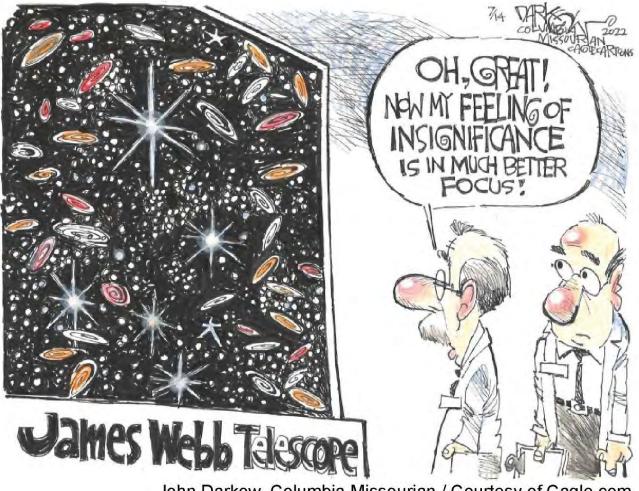
David Horsey, Los Angeles Times / Courtesy of AAEC



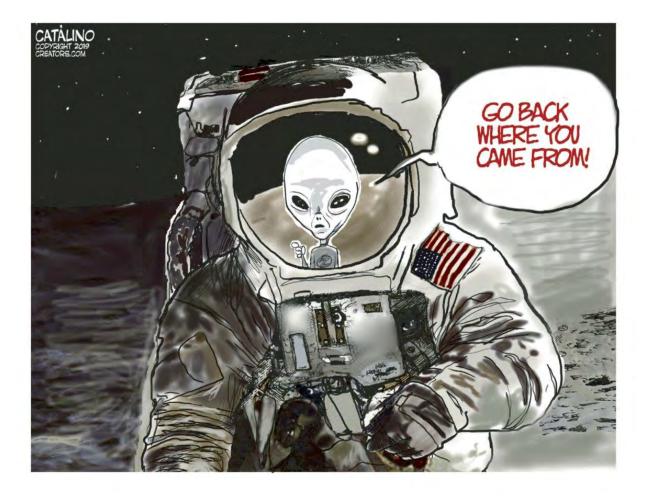




Other space-related



John Darkow, Columbia Missourian / Courtesy of Cagle.com





**Mamireztoons** 

## HOUSTON, WE HAVE A PROBLEM ...

michaelpramirez.com



## Florida Standards related to space

Benchmark	Description	Idea/Standard	Subject	Grade	Body Of Knowledge/ Strand
SS.4.A.8.3	Describe the effect of the United States space program on Florida's economy and growth.	Contemporary Florida into the 21st Century	Social Studies	4	American History
SC.4.E.5.5	Investigate and report the effects of space research and exploration on the economy and culture of Florida.	Earth in Space and Time	Science	4	Earth and Space Science
SC.8.E.5.1	Recognize that there are enormous distances between objects in space and apply our knowledge of light and space travel to understand this distance.	Earth in Space and Time	Science	8	Earth and Space Science
SC.8.E.5.9	Explain the impact of objects in space on each other including: 1. the Sun on the Earth including seasons and gravitational attraction 2. the Moon on the Earth, including phases, tides, and eclipses, and the relative position of each body.	Earth in Space and Time	Science	8	Earth and Space Science
SC.8.E.5.10	Assess how technology is essential to science for such purposes as access to outer space and other remote locations, sample collection, measurement, data collection and storage, computation, and communication of information.	Earth in Space and Time	Science	8	Earth and Space Science
SC.8.E.5.12	Summarize the effects of space exploration on the economy and culture of Florida.	Earth in Space and Time	Science	8	Earth and Space Science
SC.912.E.5.7	Relate the history of and explain the justification for future space exploration and continuing technology development.	Earth in Space and Time	Science	9-12	Earth and Space Science
SC.912.E.5.9	Analyze the broad effects of space exploration on the economy and culture of Florida.	Earth in Space and Time	Science	9-12	Earth and Space Science

#### **Teacher resources**

#### **NIE resources**

#### **Space-related Front Page Talking Points**

New era in space: Flying to the moon is a business for private companies now (Feb. 26, 2024) - <u>https://nieonline.com/tbtimes/frontpage.cfm?lessondate=20240226</u>

Meet our newest space travelers, training for a 2024 adventure around the moon (May 15, 2023) - https://nieonline.com/tbtimes/frontpage.cfm?lessondate=20230515

What's ahead in 2023: space activities aimed at landing on the moon and studying Mars (Jan. 23, 2023) - <u>https://nieonline.com/tbtimes/frontpage.cfm?lessondate=20230123</u>

NASA revives U.S. moon launches with the first of three Artemis missions (Nov. 21, 2022) - <u>https://nieonline.com/tbtimes/frontpage.cfm?lessondate=20221121</u>

NASA shows it can bump an asteroid in space in case one ever heads at us (Oct. 03, 2022) - <u>https://nieonline.com/tbtimes/frontpage.cfm?lessondate=20221003</u>

#### Space-related News Videos

Test of giant rocketship goes better, but blows up again (11/20/2023) <u>https://nieonline.com/tbtimes/videooftheweek.cfm?id=688</u>

Space capsule brings NASA's first asteroid samples to Earth (09/25/2023) https://nieonline.com/tbtimes/videooftheweek.cfm?id=677

New technology aims to put a whole new spin on space travel (09/18/2023) <a href="https://nieonline.com/tbtimes/videooftheweek.cfm?id=676">https://nieonline.com/tbtimes/videooftheweek.cfm?id=676</a>

Russia's unmanned Luna-25 spacecraft smashes into the moon (08/21/2023) https://nieonline.com/tbtimes/videooftheweek.cfm?id=672

#### Other resources

My NASA Data mynasadata.larc.nasa.gov

NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory K-12 Resources jpl.nasa.gov/edu/resources

NASA Learning Resources nasa.gov/learning-resources

NASA Surprisingly STEM video series plus.nasa.gov/series/surprisingly-stem

National Air and Space Museum Learning Resources airandspace.si.edu/learn/learning-resources

National Inventors Hall of Fame® Learning Resources invent.org/at-home-learning-resources

National Space Biomedical Research Institute K-12 Educator Resources <u>nsbri.org/for-students/for-students</u>

Natural Inquirer K-12 Science Education Materials naturalinquirer.org

PBS Daily News Lessons: STEM pbs.org/newshour/classroom/daily-news-lessons?subject=stem

PBS News Hour Classroom: Science Collection florida.pbslearningmedia.org/collection/newshour-classroom/t/science

The Planetary Society Space for Kids planetary.org/kids

Science Friday Educate sciencefriday.com/educate

Teach Engineering Hands-On Space Activities teachengineering.org/curriculum/browse?q=space

Back to top