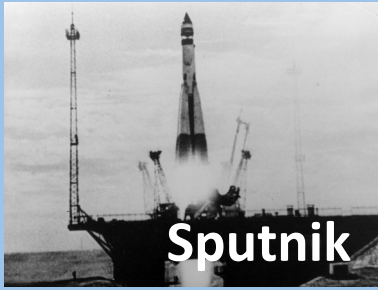


The Space Race



Sputnik

The Moon Landing

In July 1969, the United States achieved a major victory in the Space Race when NASA's Apollo 11 mission successfully landed the first humans on the Moon. Astronauts Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin walked on the Moon's surface.



The Creation of NASA

In response to the USSR's early successes in space, the United States established NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) in 1958. This new space agency was given the responsibility of overseeing all American space exploration efforts.

Propaganda?

Propaganda is information, often biased or misleading, used to promote a political cause. Both the USA and USSR used space achievements in propaganda to inspire their citizens and impress other nations.

The Cold War

The Cold War (1945-1991) was a time of tension and rivalry between the United States and the Soviet Union. Though they never fought each other directly, they competed in areas like military development, political influence, and space technology.



What Was the Purpose of the Space Race?

To prove technological, political and military superiority without direct conflict. Space achievements were used to promote national pride and ideological power.

Key Vocabulary

Term	Definition
Cold War	A time of rivalry and tension between the USA and USSR after WWII.
Satellite	A machine launched into space that orbits a planet.
NASA	National Aeronautics and Space Administration - US space agency.
Cosmonaut	A Soviet astronaut.
Astronaut	A person trained to travel and work in space (used in the USA).
Orbit	The path taken by an object as it moves around a planet or star.
Propaganda	Media or information used to influence opinions, often biased or one-sided.

Key events timeline

Year	Event
1944	Nazi Germany launched the V-2 rocket, the first human-made object to enter space.
1945	World War II ended; Cold War began between USA and USSR.
1957	USSR launched Sputnik 1 , the first artificial satellite.
1957	USSR launched Sputnik 2 with Laika , the first living creature in orbit.
1958	USA launched Explorer 1 , its first satellite; NASA was created.
1961	Soviet cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin became the first human in space.
1969	American astronaut Neil Armstrong became the first person to walk on the Moon.