

# RACE THROUGH SPACE

*You probably wouldn't have guessed it but the U.S. Navy and NASA have had a long-standing relationship that goes back over fifty-years. From space exploration to manned space flight, the U.S. Navy has been present for it all!*

On May 5, 1961 the USS *Lake Champlain* (CVS-39) served as the prime ship to aid in the recovery of the *Mercury Freedom 7*; the first manned space flight. Aboard the capsule was astronaut and Navy Officer, **Alan Shepard**. Shepard splashed into the Atlantic Ocean about 300 miles from Cape Canaveral, Florida following his 15 minute and 22 second trip to space.

Only eight years later, on July 20, 1969, while aboard the *Apollo 11* **Neil Armstrong** famously became known for being the first man to walk on the moon. Prior to joining NASA as an astronaut, Armstrong served as a Naval Aviator who served during the Korean War. Following the mission, the USS *Hornet* (CVS-12) aided in the recovery of Armstrong and the rest of the *Apollo 11* crew.

The *Apollo 13*, launching only one year after the *Apollo 8*, was commanded by **Captain James (Jim) Lovell, Jr.** who was also a Naval Aviator during the Vietnam War. Mid-flight, Cap. Lovell and his crew were faced with a critical oxygen tank failure which resulted in them aborting their mission and being tasked with journeying around the moon before returning safely to Earth. *This name might sound familiar to you because of the Captain James A. Lovell Federal Healthcare Center that is located right near Naval Station Great Lakes!*

Most recently in December 2020, NASA announced the newest team of eighteen astronauts who will making the latest attempt to return to the moon in 2024. The team is made up of ten active-duty military, five of whom are with the U.S. Navy. Of this team is **Lieutenant Commander Kayla Barron** who, along with her fellow female astronauts, will have the distinction of being the first women to walk on the moon! Prior to working towards becoming an astronaut, Lt. Cmdr. Barron served on a ballistic missile submarine and it was that experience, according to Barron in a Military Times article, that "made [her] want to and believe that [she] could become an astronaut."

## INSTRUCTIONS

1. Read the brief history on the relationship between the U.S. Navy and NASA.
2. Test your knowledge with "True or False?" questions.
3. Spot the difference between the two Flight Helmet from the Apollo 11 on page two!
4. Complete the word search on the last page.
5. Tag the National Museum of the American Sailor on social media with your finished activities:



National Museum of the American Sailor



@ntlmuseumamericansailor

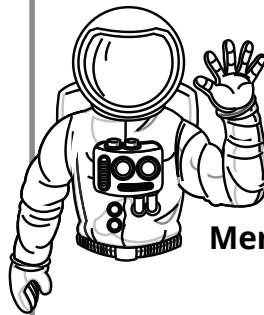
## TRUE OR FALSE?

*Did you read the history section of this worksheet? Test your knowledge with a few "True or False?" questions!*

**At this point in history, there has never been a woman on the moon.**

True

False



**Neil Armstrong was on the *Apollo 10*.**

True

False

***Mercury Freedom 7* was the first manned space flight.**

True

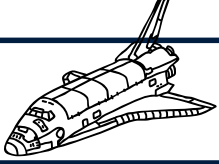
False

This worksheet has been provided by the National Museum of the American Sailor

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# RACE THROUGH SPACE

## SPOT THE DIFFERENCES

Look closely! Can you spot the five differences in this Flight Helmet from the Apollo 11 recovery? Feel free to circle the differences or use the list to write down your findings!  
*Image courtesy of the Naval History and Heritage Command.*



1. \_\_\_\_\_

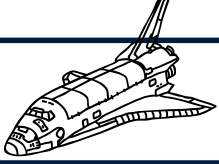
2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_



5. \_\_\_\_\_



# RACE THROUGH SPACE

## WORD SEARCH



Use the Word Bank below to find the hidden words in this word search.

m	o	o	n	i	z	a	a
a	e	g	a	t	t	t	p
s	e	i	v	h	r	e	p
t	h	f	y	u	c	n	o
e	d	i	l	a	a	a	l
r	b	g	p	t	t	s	l
p	u	s	n	y	s	a	o

### Word Bank:

Moon	NASA	Space
Ship	Apollo	Navy

o	a	s	y	u	s	n	p
l	s	t	t	d	g	q	r
l	a	a	a	l	!	d	e
o	n	c	u	y	f	h	t
d	e	r	h	v	!	e	s
d	t	t	t	a	g	e	a
a	a	z	!	n	o	o	m

## WORD SEARCH

**True!** The first women who will go to the moon are part of the newest team of astronauts who are set to visit space in 2024.

## TRUE OR FALSE?

**False!** Neil Armstrong was on the Apollo 11.

**True!** Mercury Freedom 7 was the first manned space flight in 1961.

## SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

1. The emblem on the back of the fighter helmet was red but changed to blue.
2. The button on the chinstrap was removed.
3. Part of the wire is missing.
4. The screws on the left side of the helmet are gone.
5. The buttons on the walkie-talkie are gone.

# ANSWER KEYS