

## The Moon and Space Activities

**July 20, 1969** Most people can tell you exactly where they were when astronaut



Neil Armstrong uttered the famous phrase, "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind." Give your residents an opportunity to tell their story of where they were when man first walked on the moon.

**Film Fest** Many movies have been made about space exploration. You can choose between historical fiction, fantasy, or documentary. Some suggestions are *The Martian*, *Star Trek*, *Apollo 13*, *Space Cowboys*, *WALL.E*, *The Right Stuff*, *Star Wars*, *Gravity*, *The Age of Hubble*, *Into the Universe with Stephen Hawking*, *Hidden Figures*, and *Despicable Me*.



**Rockets** Using baking soda and vinegar, your residents can create their own [rockets](#). For more fun, group people in teams (including family and staff if desired) and see whose rocket gets launched the farthest.

**Cardboard Spaceship** Creating a spaceship using large cardboard boxes and some imagination is a wonderful intergenerational activity. Invite your residents and young guests to “take off for the Moon” and create their own adventures.



**How Far to the Moon?** The Moon is miles away, but just how many miles? Play a game with your residents by having them write down their guesses for what the *average* distance is from Earth to the Moon. Why the *average* distance? The Moon's orbit around Earth is elliptical. At the closest, the distance is 225,623 miles and at its farthest it 252,088 miles, which makes the average 238,855 miles



**Readers Theater** Reenact the moon landing with your staff and residents, using the readers theater script, [Moon Talk from Apollo 11](#). Feel free to use simple props and perform the reading for an audience.



**Memorabilia Display** Gather memorabilia relating to the moon landing and space exploration (news articles, patches, pictures, and models, etc.) from families and your community. Display the artifacts in a common area for residents and guests to explore.

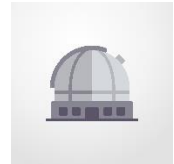
**Weight on the Moon** Our weight on the moon is less than it would be on Earth, due to a difference of the strength of gravity on the moon. Have you ever wondered what your weight would be on the Moon or any of the other planets? Have some fun with this [calculator](#).



**Moon Walk** Neil Armstrong was the first man to walk on the Moon, but did he ever [moonwalk](#) on Earth? How many of your staff know how to moonwalk? Why not have a moonwalking

competition among your staff and let your residents be the judges.

**Observatory** Is there an observatory near your community? Arrange a field trip for your residents. Most observatories offer guided tours and a variety of learning opportunities. For residents who are less mobile, try to arrange for an astronomer to speak at your community.



**Lunar Landing Photo Booth** Set up a photo booth with a moon landscape and starry skies. Purchase [inexpensive props](#) or create your own.

**Moon Rock Hunt** Another fun intergenerational activity is a team hunt for “moon rocks.” Create “moon rocks” by loosely wrapping chocolate candy in foil to resemble rocks. Hide them outside or in a common area for residents and their young guests to find.



**Glow in the Dark** Have fun decorating with [glow in the dark paint](#), a [glow in the dark solar system](#), and [glow sticks](#). Let your residents’ creativity flow!

**Telescope** If you are lucky enough to have a community located away from the bright lights of the big city, set up a telescope outdoors. Depending on the power of the telescope, your residents can view a variety of objects in the night sky.



**Phases of the Moon** With or without a telescope, your residents can view the phases of the moon throughout the month. Have your residents sketch and identify the different phases of the moon. Create a display in the common area. Try this fun [Oreo Moon](#) phases activity.



**Solar System Display** Some of your mathematically inclined residents might enjoy creating a scale model of the solar system. It can be created with paper on the wall or using 3D materials, such as Styrofoam balls.



**Name that Moon Tune** Use the new Moon Tune videos on your iN2L system to play a game of name that “Moon” tune with your residents.