

SFLEP – Longman Secondary English Graded Readers

外教社 — 朗文中学英语分级阅读

新课标百科丛书

# 登月探秘

## JOURNEY TO THE MOON

新课标  
第5级  
之十三



**W** 上海外语教育出版社  
外教社 SHANGHAI FOREIGN LANGUAGE EDUCATION PRESS



**KATHERINE RATCLIFFE  
DAVID WHITE**



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## 出版说明

随着新《英语课程标准》（以下简称《新课标》）的颁布，中学英语教学改革推进到了一个新的阶段，对学生的知识面、交际能力、文化意识等方面的要求提到了新的高度。课外阅读不再是课堂教学可有可无的补充，而已成为英语学习不可或缺的部分。《新课标》对学生课外阅读在数量上作出了明确的规定，在培养目标上提出了一系列新的要求。为此，上海外语教育出版社与朗文合作编写了这套“外教社·朗文中学英语分级阅读：新课标百科丛书”。其目的是将《新课标》的教学理念贯彻到课外阅读当中，帮助学生达到《新课标》所提出的各项要求。

丛书的编写以《新课标》为指导，主要有以下特点：1. 在总体设计上，根据《新课标》分级编写，针对性强，充分满足各阶段中学生的阅读需求；2. 在选材上，突出个性化特征，根据不同年龄段学生的不同阅读兴趣，选择具有时代感、内容丰富的题材，帮助学生在完成《新课标》阅读任务的同时，扩大知识面，培养跨文化交流意识；3. 在难度的把握上，兼顾能力的提高和阅读兴趣及自信心的培养，为学生营造宽松的学习氛围；4. 在学习策略的指导上，根据《新课标》对各级的要求为每册书编写阅读技巧指南，引导学生养成良好的学习习惯；5. 在单元后的练习编排上，突出灵活性、开放性、参与性，将读、说、写等相结合，激发学生的想象力和创造力，帮助学生全面达到《新课标》的各项要求。

丛书共80册，分3、5、7、9四级，每级各20册。本丛书与“外教社·朗文小学英语分级阅读”一脉相承，是外教社与朗文合作推出的阅读精品。

作为以《新课标》为指导编写课外阅读的积极尝试，我们衷心希望广大读者能够多与我们联系、沟通，提出宝贵的意见和建议，协助我们精益求精，将丛书不断提高、完善。

上海外语教育出版社



## Acknowledgements

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## Contents

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Do you know?	2
Introduction	3
Rocket Science	11
The Space Race	17
China in Space	27
It's a Spaceman's Life	37
The Future of the Moon	51
Reading Skills	59
Answer Key	61

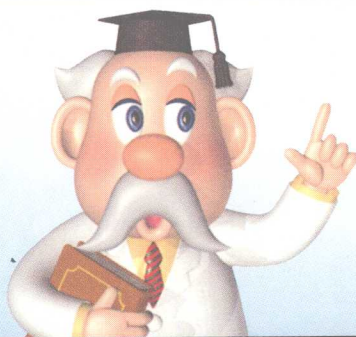




## Do you know?

- What is gravity?
- Who invented the first rocket?
- Which two countries were involved in the Space Race?
- Who became the first man to walk on the moon?
- What happened to Apollo 13 when it was heading for the moon?
- Who was China's first astronaut to go into space?
- Why do astronauts learn how to live in jungles and deserts?
- How do astronauts eat in space?
- What is the ISS?

Read this book and find the answers to these and other questions. Learn all about humankind's journey to the moon. You'll be amazed!



# Introduction





Sam's grandfather gave him a telescope for his birthday. Tonight he is going to look up at the sky with his new telescope for the first time.

Sam is very excited because he loves the night sky and now he'll be able to see it better. He loves the stars, planets and comets, but Sam's favourite thing is the moon. He really wants to go there one day.



Sam knows many stories about the moon. In one, a beautiful woman called Chang'e flies to the moon and lives there with a jade rabbit. In another, there is a man in the moon and you can see his face when the moon is full.



### NOTES

telescope / 'telɪskəʊp / 望远镜

comet / 'kɒmɪt / 彗星

jade / dʒeɪd / 玉

Sam is reading a famous science fiction story called *From the Earth to the Moon*. It was written in 1865 by Jules Verne (1828–1905). One hundred years later, the first real trip to the moon was exactly as he imagined!



Jules Verne

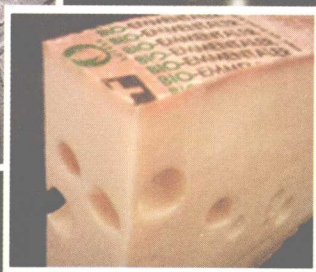


### NOTES

science fiction / 'saɪəns 'fɪkʃən / 科幻小说

imagine / ɪ'mædʒɪn / 想象

used to 过去常常



Some people used to think that the moon was made of cheese.





Sam knows quite a lot about space. For example, he knows that astronauts float in space because there is no gravity.

Gravity makes planets pull things towards them. On Earth, gravity keeps our feet on the ground and makes anything we drop fall downwards. The moon's gravity is about 1/6 of the Earth's, so walking on the moon is more like half floating, half walking!

Because of the weak gravity on the moon, you can kick a football a VERY long way!



## NOTES

astronaut / 'æstrɒnɔ:t / 宇航员  
float / fləʊt / 漂浮, 浮动

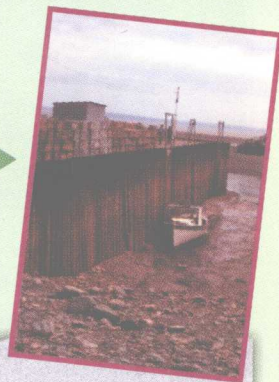
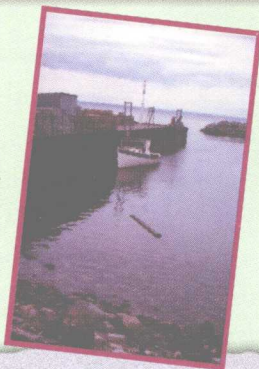
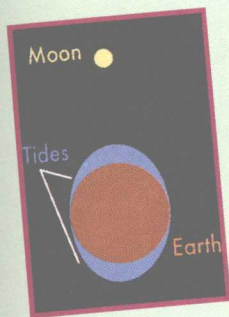
gravity / 'grævɪti / 引力, 地心吸力  
downwards / 'daʊnwədz / 向下



Sam learns more about the moon at school.

## Moon Fact

Age	About 4.6 billion years old, same as the Earth
Size	The diameter of the moon is 3,476 km. The Earth is almost four times bigger.
Temperature	As hot as 127°C and as cold as -173°C
Distance from the Earth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• About 384,000 km away</li> <li>• It is moving about 3.8 cm away from the Earth each year.</li> </ul>
Orbit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The moon orbits the Earth every 27.3 days. This is called a lunar (meaning 'moon') month.</li> <li>• The moon's orbit is almost a perfect circle.</li> </ul>



As the moon moves around the Earth, its gravity pulls the water in our oceans towards it. This makes the water move and causes tides.



## NOTES

diameter / daɪ'æmɪtə / 直径

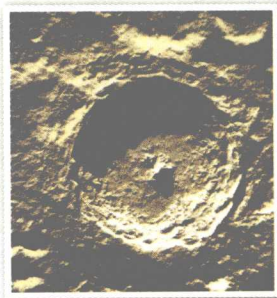
distance / 'dɪstəns / 距离

orbit / 'ɔ:bɪt / 运行轨道, 绕轨道运行

lunar / 'lu:nə / 按月球的运转测定的, 阴历的

tide / taɪd / 潮汐

Sam also learns that the moon's surface has a lot of 'holes' on it. These are called craters. They are formed when rocks in space hit the moon.



*This is a crater on the moon.*

There are craters on the Earth too but often they are covered by water. Many people worry that one day a big rock from space may hit the Earth and kill many people. Some scientists think that this is what happened to the dinosaurs.



*This is a crater on Earth in the US. It was made 50,000 years ago and is 1,200 metres across!*



### NOTES

surface / 's3:fis / 表面  
crater / 'kreitə / 陨石坑  
dinosaur / 'daməsɔ: / 恐龙  
Mars / mɑ:z / 火星  
once in a blue moon 千载难逢

### SPACE ROCK!

It's only once in a blue moon that you'll get hit by a stone from space. But it happened to an English girl on 27 August, 2002. A small hot stone, about 5 cm long, fell from the sky and landed on her foot. Scientists say it might have come from Mars!

'Once in a blue moon' has come to mean 'almost never'. A real blue moon is when there are two full moon's in one month. This happens every 32 months.




Through his telescope, Sam can see craters on the moon. He wonders what's on the side of the moon that he can't see. He searches on the Internet.

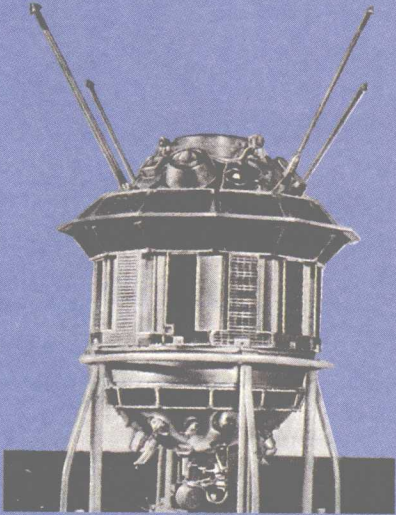
Address: <http://www.moon.com> go

Live Home Page Apple iTools Apple Support Apple Store Microsoft MacTopia MSN Office for Macintosh

As the moon orbits the Earth, it turns so that only one side of it can ever be seen. The far or 'dark' side of the moon isn't actually dark. It gets as much sunlight as the side facing the Earth and it was seen for the first time in 1959. A spacecraft called Luna 3 took pictures of it.



*The first picture of the far side of the moon*



*Luna 3*

Photographs are great, but Sam wants to see the far side of the moon for himself. That means a trip in a rocket!



### NOTES

spacecraft / 'speɪskra:ft / 太空船, 航天器  
rocket / 'rɒkɪt / 火箭



## Complete the Jade Rabbit story

Here is an ancient Chinese story about the moon.

Complete the story with the missing parts below. Check your answers on page 61.



In a famous Chinese story, (1) \_\_\_\_\_. It is a rabbit. One day, three wise old men changed themselves into very poor old men and (2) \_\_\_\_\_. Both the fox and the monkey gave them something to eat but (3) \_\_\_\_\_. The rabbit said he could cook himself by jumping into the fire so (4) \_\_\_\_\_. The old men were so grateful that (5) \_\_\_\_\_. The rabbit then became the Jade Rabbit and he still lives on the moon today.

- a) the old men could eat his meat
- b) the rabbit had no food
- c) there is an animal living on the moon
- d) they let the rabbit live in the Moon Palace
- e) asked for food from a fox, a monkey and a rabbit

# Rocket Science





Today rockets take astronauts to the moon but for hundreds of years, rockets were only used in war.

*The Chinese invented the first rocket around 1000 AD. These rockets were bamboo tubes which were filled with gunpowder. By lighting the gunpowder, the Chinese could shoot arrows out of the tubes. In 1232, the Chinese used the 'arrows of flying fire' to defeat the Mongols. The Mongols later introduced rockets to Europe when they were at war with Russia.*



## NOTES

tube / tju:b / 管, 筒

gunpowder / 'gʌn,paʊdər / 火药

light / laɪt / 点(火), 点燃

arrow / 'ærəʊ / 箭

defeat / dɪ'fi:t / 击败, 战胜

