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**MacquarieNet**

# Exploring Space with MacquarieNet

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This year, Russia marks 50 years of space travel with the celebration of the launch of Sputnik, the world's first artificial satellite. Sputnik was sent into orbit on October 4, 1957. It was a small aluminium sphere that weighed just 85 kilograms, but its three-month journey circling the earth became a significant event in world history. Its launch set off the 'space race' between the Soviet Union and the United States which led to the human exploration of space.

**Using the varied resources on MacquarieNet, students will be able to:**

- learn about different types of spacecraft
- discover more about the first spacecraft and the first cosmonauts and astronauts
- be able to answer questions about:
  - the first moon landing
  - the International Space Station
- find information about astronauts, what they eat and how they sleep in space
- obtain facts about various space missions.

**Australia and space travel:**

Australia had an exciting role in the first moon landing. One of the largest radio telescopes in the world was installed at Parkes, New South Wales in 1961. Eight years later this telescope was used to relay around the world the first pictures of humans on the moon. The story of the Parkes radio telescope was made famous in the film 'The Dish' starring Sam Neill. In 2004 the telescope played a major role in the important discovery of two radio pulsars orbiting each other almost 2,000 light years from Earth.

Use MacquarieNet's rich array of resources to teach your students about the part Australia has played in the 'space race' over the last 50 years. It's all easy to discover with MacquarieNet.



## Free trial of MacquarieNet

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