

Script

Song 1 FLY ME TO THE MOON (Repeat X2)

Mick and Mack step on to the stage to open the show. (Applause)

MICK: Good evening and welcome to the new series of...

MICK & MACK INTO THE GREAT UNKNOWN!

MACK:... where we meet famous people who have gone 'to a galaxy far, far away'. *(He sings the Star Wars tune)*

MICK:.....Oh boy, have we got a show for you tonight!

MACK: *(To Mick)* Tell 'em who's on the show, Mick.

MICK: *(Proudly)* Neil!

MACK: *(Kneeling)* Tell 'em who's on the show, Mick.

MICK: *(Looking puzzled)* Armstrong!

MACK: *(Showing his biceps)* I'm strong too, but tell 'em who's on the show, Mick!

MICK: Get up you idiot! Ladies and Gentlemen, in just a few minutes we will be meeting Neil Armstrong. Yes, NEIL ARMSTRONG – the man who in 1969 left footprints on the moon.

Everyone cheers

MACK: But before that, to get us into a lunar mood, please welcome our House Band for tonight, The Blue Mooners.

More cheering as the Blue Mooners step forward.

Blue Mooner 1: Good evening Bishopston! We're the Blue Mooners!

Blue Mooner 2: And tonight, we're going to take you to the stars!

Song 2 HEY DIDDLE DIDDLE

MICK: Thank you Blue Mooners!

MACK: And now let's meet our special guests tonight – three astronauts, all born in 1930, whose destiny was to fly to the moon.

MICK: Please welcome... Neil Armstrong! *(Cheering)*

MACK: Buzz Aldrin! *(Cheering)*

MICK:... and Michael Collins! *(Cheering)*

Neil, Buzz and Michael move centre stage, they wave as their names are read out.

MACK: It's over to our lucky interviewers for this evening, Q and A.

Q and A step forward with microphones. Mick and Mack step back.

Q: It's an honour to meet you all today, but before we hear your amazing story, let's travel back through time and space. *Doodle dee doo (Back in time actions)*

The three couples and their babies step forward.

MRS ALDRIN: This is our baby, Edwin Aldrin. We've named him after his daddy, haven't we dear?

MR ALDRIN: *(Proudly)* That's right. Edwin Aldrin Junior! His little sister couldn't say 'brother' and kept calling him 'Buzzer'! So we call him Buzz.

Colonel and Mrs Collins step forward.

COL. COLLINS: *(Saluting to the audience)* I'm Colonel Collins and this is my brand-new boy, Michael. He was born in Italy while I was there serving my country on military service.

MRS COLLINS: This is his first time on American soil. Isn't he beautiful?

Mr and Mrs Armstrong step forward.

MR ARMSTRONG: This is baby Neil – Neil Armstrong. Wave to the people, Neil!

MRS ARMSTRONG: *(To baby Neil)* One day, little man, you could go to college if you work hard!

MR ARMSTRONG: *(To baby Neil)* And one day soon I'm going to take you to your first air show. You'd like that, wouldn't you?

MRS ARMSTRONG: His daddy's mad about aeroplanes, but I don't think we'll ever be able to afford flying lessons!

The characters step back. Q, A, Neil, Buzz and Michael move centre stage.

A: Little did they know! So, did you have flying lessons, Neil?

NEIL: Well, Dad did take me to dozens of air shows almost as soon as I could walk, and I actually got my pilot's licence when I was 16, before I even learned to drive a car!

Q: What happened next?

NEIL: As Mum predicted, I went to college and then I joined the Navy and became a test pilot.

A: So when were you selected by NASA?

NEIL: In 1962. That's when I started training with these two *(points to Buzz and Michael)*.

ASTRONAUTS: We were gonna be ASTRONAUTS!

Song 3 I'M GONNA BE AN ASTRONAUT!

Mission Control step forward with large/model of the moon.

MC 1: The moon is the Earth's satellite, the fifth largest moon in the solar system.

MC 2: The moon is nearly 250,000 miles from Earth.

MC 3: The moon orbits Earth every 27.3 days.

MC 4: This gravity helps to make the tides in our seas and oceans twice a day.

MC 5: This fascination with the moon led to the great Space Race.

MC 1: During the 1960s, scientists from The United States of America and from Russia led the way.

MC 2: Who would be the first to get there?

ALL MC The Space Race had begun!

Mission Control step back. Brick and Brack step forward.

BRICK: Which brings us neatly into our regular quiz slot.

BRACK: This week our contestants must answer questions about the Space Race. Let's meet our two teams.

BRICK: One team is Team Cosmo from Russia. *(Cheering)*

The Russian team cheer.

TEAM COSMO 1: Thanks so much for having us!

BRACK: And the other is Team Astro from America. *(Cheering)*

TEAM ASTRO 1: A pleasure to be here today!

The quiz contestants step forward – Team Astro with a bell and Team Cosmo with a shaker for buzzers.

BRICK: Quizmasters, are you ready to ask the questions?

QUIZMASTER 1: We're ready! Question 1. Who launched the first satellite called Sputnik?

TEAM COSMO 2: *(Shakes shaker)* Russia! Yes, one point for Team Cosmo!

QUIZMASTER 1: Correct! Question 2. Apollo 10 was sent by the USA to find a suitable landing site on the Sea of what?

TEAM ASTRO 1: *(Rings bell)* Tranquility.

QUIZMASTER 2: Correct. Question 3, the final question! Apollo 11 landed safely on the moon. What was the date?

TEAM ASTRO 2: *(Rings bell)* 20th July 1969! Team Astro strikes back!

QUIZMASTER 2: CORRECT!

BRICK: TEAM ASTRO from the USA have won the race to the moon just as they did in 1969!

ALL HOORAY!

Q2 and A2 step forward

Q2: Let's go back to that day in July to the Kennedy Space Centre.

(Diddle doo doo diddle do doo)

A tall model showing the parts of the Saturn V (said as 'Saturn Five') moon rocket could be held up so that Mission Control could point to the relevant areas as they speak.

A2: Talk us through what's happening here, guys.

MC 3: Neil Armstrong, Commander of the Apollo 11 mission and his fellow crew members are strapped into the command module, *Columbia*, at the head of *Saturn Five*.

MC 4: Below them the Lunar landing module *Eagle* is in place.

ALL MC The countdown begins!

ALL (*Encourage audience*) 10, 9, 8, 7, 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1, ZERO. All engines running, we have lift-off!

Song 4 – SPACE ODDITY

Mission Control step forward.

MC 5: On 20th July 1969 *Columbia*, the command module, was orbiting the moon.

MC 1: Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin crawled into their positions in *Eagle*.

MC 2: Michael Collins remained behind to pilot *Columbia*.

Q2 and A2 bring Neil, Buzz and Michael centre stage.

Q2: Michael Collins, tell us what you remember about that moment.

MICHAEL: I was the Command Module Pilot. My job was to stay in *Columbia*, while the other two took off in *Eagle*, the lunar module. There I was, on my own, orbiting the moon and hoping they'd be able to get back to me!

A2: What about you, Buzz?

BUZZ: I was the Lunar Module Pilot, in charge of the *Eagle*. Neil was behind me. Suddenly all the automatic controls started to go wild. (*Begin acting it out*) Warning lights flashed and alarms were going off. We were heading for The Sea of Tranquillity, but it was rough and rocky!

Q2: Tell us what you did about it, Neil.

NEIL: Well, as Mission Commander, I made the decision that we couldn't land there, so I flew *Eagle* myself, looking for safer ground. I chose my spot and we landed. Then I called Mission Control in Houston to say, 'The *Eagle* has landed!' (*Phone call sounds and phone acting*)

A2: (*To Mission Control*) That must have been so good to hear.

MC 4: It was. We'd held our breath for so long we were blue! Then everyone went mad with excitement!

Q2: What happened next, Buzz?

BUZZ: We got ready for Neil to do the first moonwalk. If it went OK, I was to follow him.

A2: So how did you feel when you opened that door, Neil?

NEIL: Unbelievable! I opened the door and looked around. I stepped out into the unknown where there was hardly any gravity. And I said to the world (*to audience in a big voice*), 'That's one small step for a man, one giant leap for mankind.'

Song 5 – ONE STEP TO THE MOON

MICHAEL: I was so relieved when Neil and Buzz were back with me on *Columbia* and we were successfully heading back into Earth's orbit.

BUZZ: Our mission had taken just 8 days, 3 hours, 18 minutes and 18 seconds from start to finish. Such a short time for such a long journey!

Brick and Brack step forward to close the show.

BRICK: Well, that's all we've got time for.

BRACK: Let's hear it for our space heroes Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin and Michael Collins.

Everyone claps and cheers.

BRICK: Join us next time to meet some more people who have gone 'To a galaxy far, far away.'

BRACK: *(Humming the Star Wars theme)* Ooh-ooh-ooh.

BRICK: *(Walking away with Mack)* It wasn't funny when you did it the first time!

BRACK: I thought it was!

BRICK & BRACK *(To audience)* Goodnight!

Song 6 (and encore song) – REACH FOR THE STARS