

Moon landing items to be auctioned

23rd July, 2018



Space enthusiasts will soon have the chance to purchase a piece of space exploration history. Items from Neil Armstrong's personal collection of mementos are to be auctioned.

Mr Armstrong was the first person to walk on the moon. A variety of artifacts from the July 20, 1969 lunar landing will go under the auctioneer's hammer. These include a US flag, a UN flag, state flags and commemorative medallions that were given to NASA astronauts. The auction house anticipates that the sale will be very popular. It said: "Space is one of the very, very few categories that every single person seems to be interested in....You show somebody something from the space program, and they are fascinated by it."

Neil Armstrong was born, lived and died in the state of Ohio. He kept his many space souvenirs in his house there. His son, Mark Armstrong, said his father never talked to him about what he wanted to be done with the huge amount of items he had kept. He said: "I don't think he spent much time thinking about it. He did save all the items, so he obviously felt they were worth saving." Mark and his brother Rick decided it would be best to auction the items to share their father's legacy. They had to restore many of the items. They also said it was becoming increasingly difficult to correctly identify some things as the number of living people connected to the Apollo 11 mission was decreasing.

Sources: abcnews.go.com / engadget.com / cleveland.com

Writing

The Moon landing was the greatest event in human history. Discuss.

Chat

Talk about these words from the article.

enthusiasts / space exploration / lunar landing / auction / US flag / popular / single / state / souvenirs / huge / saving / legacy / difficult / identify / Apollo 11 / mission

True / False

- a) Astronaut Neil Armstrong's space souvenirs will be auctioned. T / F
- b) A hammer used on the moon will be auctioned. T / F
- c) People will be able to bid for a NASA medallion given to astronauts. T / F
- d) An auction house said most people are fascinated by space. T / F
- e) All of Neil Armstrong's space mementos were kept in a museum. T / F
- f) Neil Armstrong told his sons what to do with his mementos. T / F
- g) Neil Armstrong's sons had to restore many of the mementos. T / F
- h) Many of the Apollo 11 team are still alive. T / F

Synonym Match

(The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|
| 1. enthusiasts | a. assortment |
| 2. purchase | b. journey |
| 3. variety | c. captivated |
| 4. anticipates | d. repair |
| 5. fascinated | e. enormous |
| 6. huge | f. fans |
| 7. obviously | g. expects |
| 8. restore | h. recognize |
| 9. identify | i. buy |
| 10. mission | j. clearly |

Discussion – Student A

- a) What would it be like to walk on the moon?
- b) What would it be like to live on the moon?
- c) What would you be thinking about in the rocket to the moon?
- d) What do you know about Neil Armstrong?
- e) Would you like to buy a piece of space exploration history?
- f) What would you take to the moon?
- g) What do you know about the moon landings?
- h) What fascinates you most about space?

Phrase Match

- | | |
|--|---------------------------|
| 1. the chance to purchase a piece of space | a. worth saving |
| 2. Armstrong's personal collection | b. by it |
| 3. auction | c. increasingly difficult |
| 4. every single person seems | d. what he wanted |
| 5. they are fascinated | e. of mementos |
| 6. talked to him about | f. house |
| 7. I don't think he spent much time | g. legacy |
| 8. he obviously felt they were | h. to be interested |
| 9. share their father's | i. thinking about it |
| 10. it was becoming | j. exploration history |

Discussion – Student B

- What do you think about what you read?
- What kind of people become astronauts?
- What mementos do you have of your life?
- How important is space travel?
- What space souvenir would you like?
- How much of a hero was Neil Armstrong?
- Would you prefer to go to the moon or Mars?
- What questions would you like to ask an astronaut?

Spelling

- Space naehiststus will soon have the chance
- a piece of space eloptioxarn history
- A rtivaey of artifacts
- given to NASA trstosauan
- very few ceoesgrtai
- they are atsnceidaf by it
- He kept his many space ruesvniors
- the huge otaunm of items
- so he iosobyvlu felt they were
- share their father's aelygc
- correctly tfidniey some things
- the Apollo 11 isoisnm

Answers – Synonym Match

1. f	2. i	3. a	4. g	5. c
6. e	7. j	8. d	9. h	10. b

Role Play

Role A – Moon Rock

You think moon rock is the best space memento to buy at an auction. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): a NASA space helmet, an Apollo 11 part or a U.S. flag.

Role B – Space Helmet

You think a NASA space helmet is the best space memento to buy at an auction. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): moon rock, an Apollo 11 part or a U.S. flag.

Role C – Apollo 11 Part

You think an Apollo 11 part is the best space memento to buy at an auction. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): a NASA space helmet, moon rock or a U.S. flag.

Role D – U.S. Flag

You think a U.S. flag is the best space memento to buy at an auction. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them what is wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least interesting of these (and why): a NASA space helmet, an Apollo 11 part or moon rock.

Speaking – Mementos

Rank these with your partner. Put the best space mementos at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------|
| • Name badge | • Moon rock |
| • Apollo 11 part | • Space helmet |
| • NASA watch | • US flag |
| • Apollo 11 log book | • NASA medal |

Answers – True False

a	T	b	F	c	T	d	T	e	F	f	F	g	T	h	F
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Answers to Phrase Match and Spelling are in the text.