

MORNING ASSEMBLY · GRADES 2–6

Morning Assembly

Week 1 — A New Space Mission

How to use this slideshow

This is a 5-minute morning slideshow for in-class assembly. Project the PDF on the board. Walk children through page by page — there's a script underneath each page. End with the discussion question. The whole thing should take 5–10 minutes max.

Page 1 — Today's news

What	A space mission has launched / made the news this week.
Who	(Country / agency — e.g. NASA, ESA, ISRO, JAXA)
Where	(Destination — moon, Mars, ISS, low-Earth orbit)
Why	(Mission goal — explore, study, support science)
Teacher script	Customize with this week's actual mission. Use BBC Newsround or NASA News for an age-appropriate version.

Page 2 — Three things to know

1 — Why we explore space

Space exploration helps us learn how the universe works, find new resources, and understand our own planet better. Many things we use today (memory foam, GPS, satellite TV) came from space technology.

2 — How rockets work

Rockets work by pushing gas **DOWN** very fast — and the rocket goes **UP** just as fast. (Newton's third law — every action has an equal and opposite reaction.) Most rockets are about 90% fuel by weight.



3 — Who can be an astronaut

Astronauts come from all backgrounds — pilots, scientists, engineers, doctors. They train for years. Most are in their 30s or 40s when they first go to space.

Page 3 — Vocabulary

1

Orbit

A path around something, held in place by gravity.

Example: The Moon orbits Earth.

2

Gravity

The force that pulls things toward each other. Bigger things have more gravity.

Example: Earth's gravity keeps us on the ground.

3

Mission

A planned journey or task with a specific goal.

Example: The mission goal is to land on Mars.

4

Astronaut

A person trained to travel and work in space.

Example: (Russia uses the word 'cosmonaut' instead.)

Page 4 — Discuss

1. Would YOU go on a one-way mission to Mars if you could? Why or why not?
2. Space exploration costs billions. Is it worth it, when there are problems on Earth?
3. What do you think we'll find that we don't know yet?

