

Student Worksheet

DIRECTIONS

Read the following news story and answer the reading comprehension and discussion questions. Use additional paper if necessary.

STORY

NASA Probes a Step Toward Moon Base, 6/23/09

http://www.pbs.org/newshour/extra/features/science/jan-june09/moon_06-23.html

READING COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

1. What is NASA and what did it do recently?

2. What are the two probes called?

3. What will the LRO do?

4. What about LCROSS?

5. Why is the moon important to study?

6. What have scientists learned by studying the moon?

7. What did George W. Bush propose in 2004?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS (more research might be needed)

1. Do you think it is important to send humans back to the moon? Why or why not?

2. What do you think about the possibility of a moon base? Why should humans care about living on the moon?

3. Having a space program is expensive. Do you think it is worth the cost to taxpayers?

4. Would like to travel to space? What do you think will be possible, in terms of space travel, in your lifetime?

5. What do you think would be different about life on the moon?

Extension Activity

Have students write a 300-500 word essay on this topic providing clear examples. Send your completed editorial to NewsHour Extra (extra@newshour.org). Exceptional essays might be published on our Web site.