

Space Race 2

What can you remember from the last lesson?

- **What happened at the end of World War 2?**
- **Who are these men and what do they think of each other?**



- **What was the Cold War?**
- **Who took the lead in the space race?**
- **How did ordinary people feel about Sputnik 1?**

Our timeline so far...

- September 1939 - WW2 starts in Europe**
- May 1945 - WW2 ends in Europe**
- 4 October 1957 - Sputnik 1 launched**
- 4 January 1958 - Sputnik 1 crashes back to Earth**

So what happened next?

SPUTNIK 2

3 November 1957

Sputnik 2 was the second spacecraft launched into Earth's orbit.

It carried a very special passenger...

LAIKA

Laika was a stray dog which was given training to become the passenger of Sputnik 2. She was chosen because she was very calm and obedient.

Why do you think the USSR sent a dog into space before a human?

What do you think happened to Laika?



Sputnik 2 was not designed to make it back to Earth, and Laika had always been intended to die. The mission sparked a debate all over the world on the mistreatment of animals and animal testing in general to advance science.

One of the scientists responsible for sending Laika into space later said this...

"Work with animals is a source of suffering to all of us. We treat them like babies who cannot speak. The more time passes, the more I'm sorry about it. We shouldn't have done it... we did not learn enough from this mission to justify the death of the dog."

What do you think?

**Today we learned about Laika and her mission into space.
Is it right to use animals like Laika for testing.
These are some of my ideas...**

For

Against

Remember how the Americans were so shocked that they had been beaten into space? They thought the USSR couldn't even build a fridge let alone a rocket. Surely the American satellite would be soooooooo much better.... What do you think?

Well, it was called Vanguard TV3, it launched on 6th December 1957, and this is what happened...



During the launch, the fuel tanks exploded. This destroyed the rocket and damaged the launch pad.

EXPLORER 1



31st January 1958

Eventually, nearly 4 months after the launch of Sputnik 1, the Americans successfully launched their first satellite - Explorer 1.

Then the USSR did this...



YURI GARGARIN

Yuri Gargarin was a Russian pilot and cosmonaut. He was the first human to journey into outer space when his Vostok spacecraft completed an orbit of the Earth on 12 April 1961.

Why was he chosen?

- **He was very clever (excellent at maths).**
- **He was a skilled air force pilot.**
- **He was short (5ft 2 ins).**
- **He was good at keeping secrets.**
- **He passed some really difficult fitness tests.**



ALAN SHEPARD

On 5 May 1961, Alan Shepard piloted the Freedom 7 mission and became the second person, and the first American, to travel into space.

This is Alan Shepard in the capsule just before the launch of Freedom 7.

How do you think he feels?

VALENTINA TERESHKOVA

On 16 June 1963, Valentina Tereshkova became the first woman, and the first civilian in space. She spent 3 days in space inside Vostok 6.

Before becoming an astronaut, she was a worker in a clothes factory.



USA government looking for first child to go into space.

What skills and qualities do you think you need to be an astronaut?

Complete the application form and send it to NASA...

