

Little People, BIG DREAMS™

## I Can Be an Astronaut

Discover the lives of outstanding people, from designers and artists to scientists. All of them achieved incredible things, yet each began life as a child with a dream.

Read about two of the world's greatest astronauts. From Neil's historic first steps on the moon, to Sally's trailblazing space flight, both had their own unique dream.

[www.littlepeoplebigdreams.com](http://www.littlepeoplebigdreams.com)



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Little People, BIG DREAMS™

I Can Be an Astronaut

Frances Lincoln

Little People, BIG DREAMS™

With  
fun digital  
activities!

# I Can Be an Astronaut



Neil  
Armstrong™

Sally  
Ride™



Scan here and start your journey  
to become an astronaut!

## Quarto

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Pass this book on and give it a new life.



**Frances Lincoln**  
Children's Books

*Little People, BIG DREAMS™*

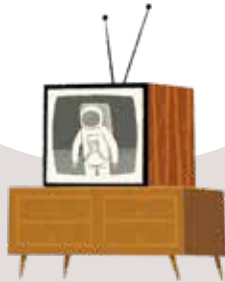
**I Can Be an  
Astronaut**

This book  
belongs to:

.....

You're about to meet two of the world's greatest astronauts. Both had their own hopes, fears, joys and challenges – and their own unique dream.

Their stories show that if you follow your own dream and believe in yourself, you can do anything!



*Little People, BIG DREAMS™*

I Can Be an  
**Astronaut**  
**NEIL ARMSTRONG™**



Written by  
Maria Isabel Sánchez Vegara

Illustrated by  
Christophe Jacques



Little Neil was a boy from Ohio, USA,  
who always wanted to be a pilot.  
He took his first plane ride when he  
was six, and he got his pilot's licence  
before he could even drive a car!

Wanting to learn all about planes,  
Neil studied aeronautical engineering  
at university, and flew planes for a living.

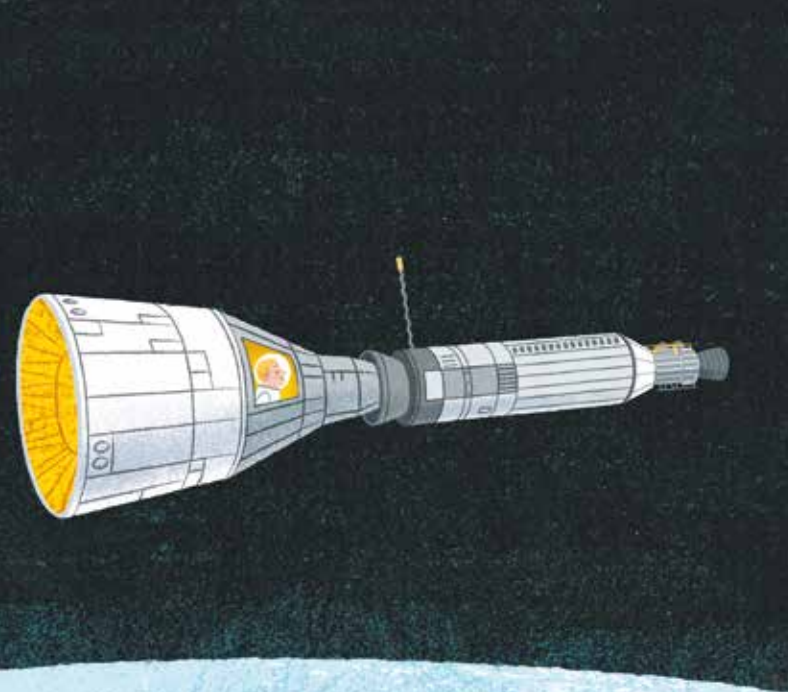
Afterwards, he became a hotshot test  
pilot. He flew a plane high up in the  
atmosphere – almost to the point where  
the sky ends and space begins.





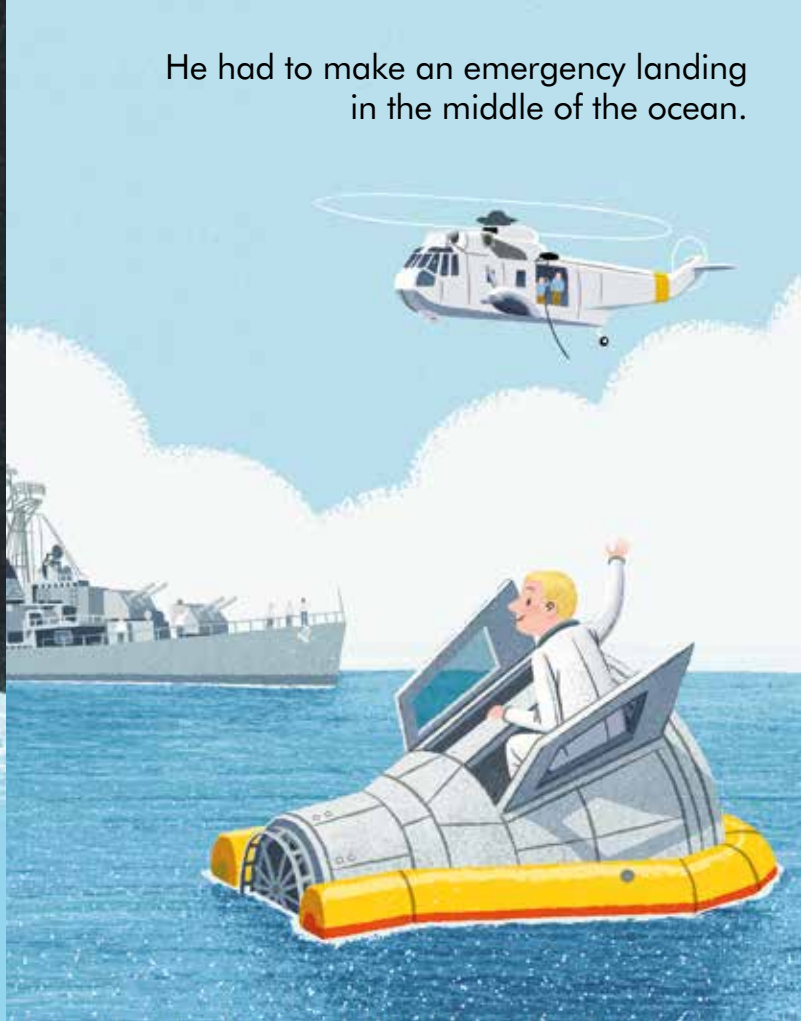
One day, Neil heard that the government was looking for astronauts for its first human spaceflight missions. It was an amazing opportunity. He applied, and got the job!





On his first mission, Neil connected two spacecraft together, something no one had done before. He almost lost his life when his tiny capsule spun out of control.

He had to make an emergency landing in the middle of the ocean.



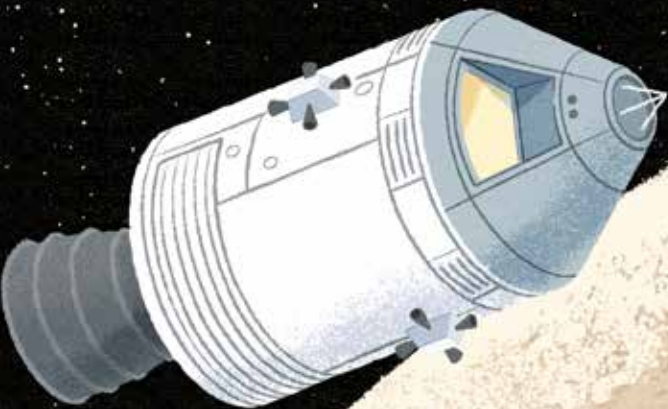




His achievement showed everyone that Neil had the experience, skills and nerves of steel needed to lead the first spaceflight to the moon.



In July 1969, Neil and his crew blasted off from Earth.



It took them almost four days to reach the moon. Neil and another astronaut jumped into the lunar module.



They had less than thirty seconds of fuel left when they landed on the moon's surface.



As Neil stepped onto the moon, he said, "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind."

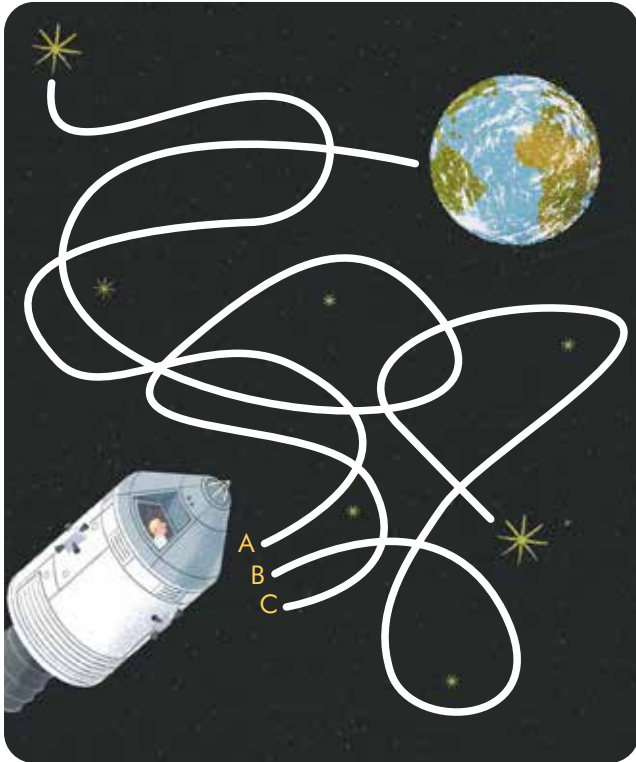
He had made history! The astronauts returned to Earth as superstars. But Neil was just happy to get back to work.





And today, Neil's footprints are still on the moon – the best tribute to a dreamer who knew that the impossible can become reality with one small step.

Can you choose the right path to take  
Neil and his crew safely back to Earth?



*Little People, BIG DREAMS™*

I Can Be an  
**Astronaut**  
SALLY RIDE™



Written by  
Maria Isabel Sánchez Vegara

Illustrated by  
Alona Millgram



Little Sally was a fearless girl from the USA who was eager to explore the world around her.

Sally's parents always encouraged her to reach for the stars in everything she did.



Sally soon discovered a love of science.  
She enjoyed solving tricky maths puzzles...



...and looking at the moon  
and stars with her telescope.

She was studying physics at university when she saw an advert looking for scientists to become astronauts. She beat thousands of others to get the job.



The training was hard, but Sally loved every minute of it. She even helped build a giant robotic arm, which worked just like a real arm.




After five years, she was chosen to be the first American woman to go into space.

Some people didn't think women could handle being an astronaut.



Journalists asked her silly questions, like did she cry when things went wrong. But it didn't bother Sally because she loved her work and believed in herself.



The day finally arrived when her spacecraft blasted off from Earth. Up in space, the stars looked brighter than ever!



During her six-day mission, Sally did many experiments and used the robotic arm. Looking down on Earth, she realised how precious and fragile our planet is, and how humans need to protect it.



After nine years as an astronaut, Sally became a professor of physics, studying space. She also started a company to inspire children, especially girls, in science.

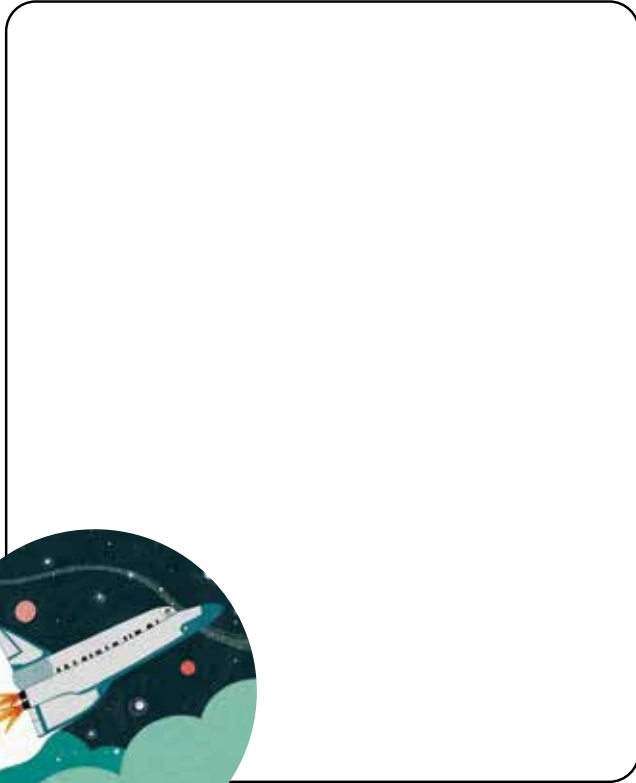




And as long as there are stars in the sky  
to reach for, there will always be...

...a place for little Sally in every  
young scientist's heart.

Can you design your own spacecraft?  
Draw it here and colour it in.



If you went on a space mission, like Sally and Neil, where would you like to go?

I would go to

---

My mission would last

---

days/months/years

I would go with this person

---

I would take this favourite belonging  
with me

---

The name of my spacecraft would be

---





## Glossary

**Aeronautical engineering** – the study of the design of aeroplanes and spacecraft

**Test pilot** – a pilot who flies new planes to test how well they work

**Lunar module** – the vehicle that carries astronauts between their spacecraft and the moon

**Physics** – a branch of science that explores forces (such as magnets), motion (how things move) and energy (how things are powered)