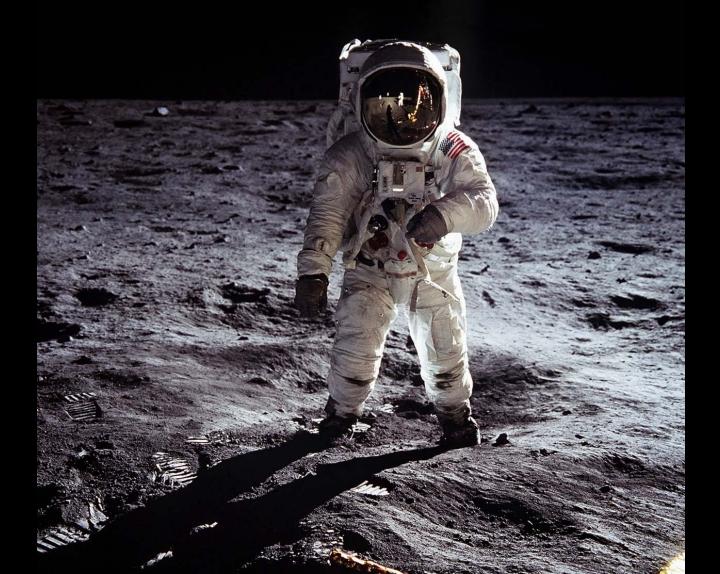
# **MOONWALKING** Dr. Philip Blanco - Grossmont College



# Q: What would Earth be like without the Moon?

-Nothing to stabilize and slow down Earth's rotation, i.e. days would be very short! (+ high winds over entire Earth)

-No tides to "stir up" marine life, nor encourage adaptations, intelligence?

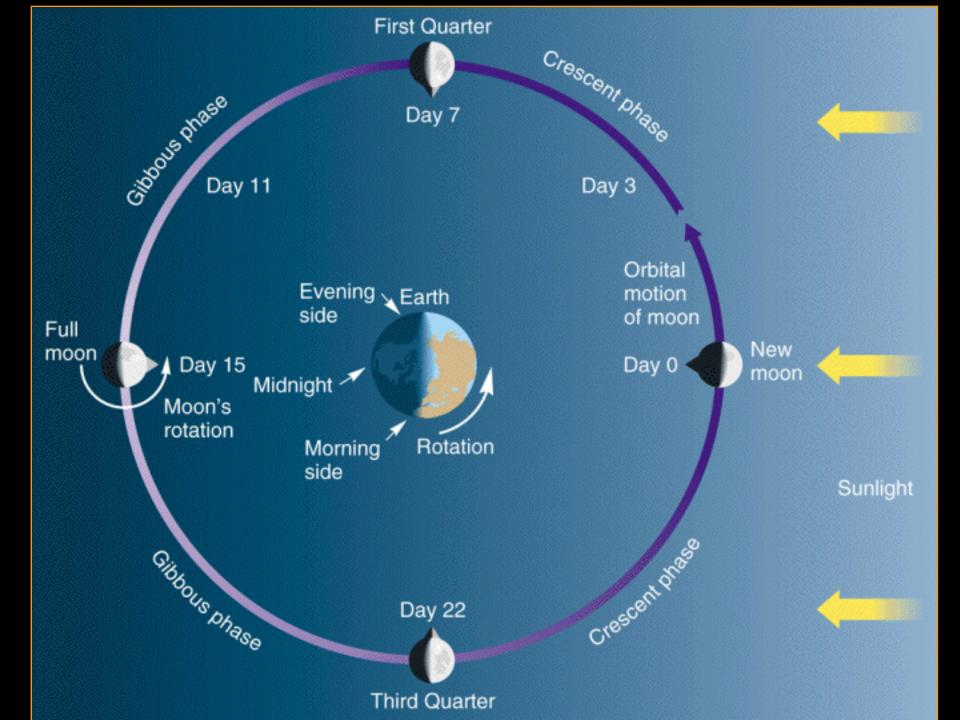
-No moonlight for nocturnal animals to see, navigate (use stars instead?)

-Less poetry, music, *romance*?

- No "stepping stone" for human space exploration? (Mars is ~200 times further away)





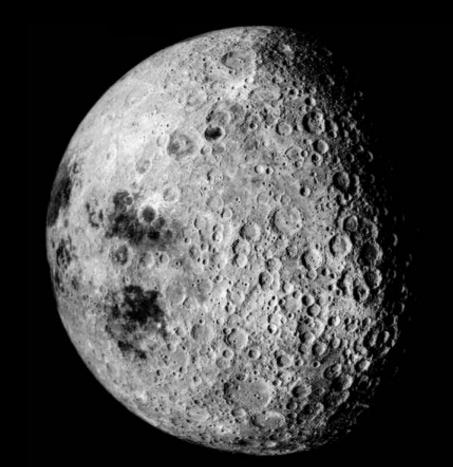


### Near side and far ("back") side of Moon

#### Near side Full Moon from Earth



# Far side from Apollo 16. (First imaged by Soviet *Luna 1* probe)



#### How high can you jump?

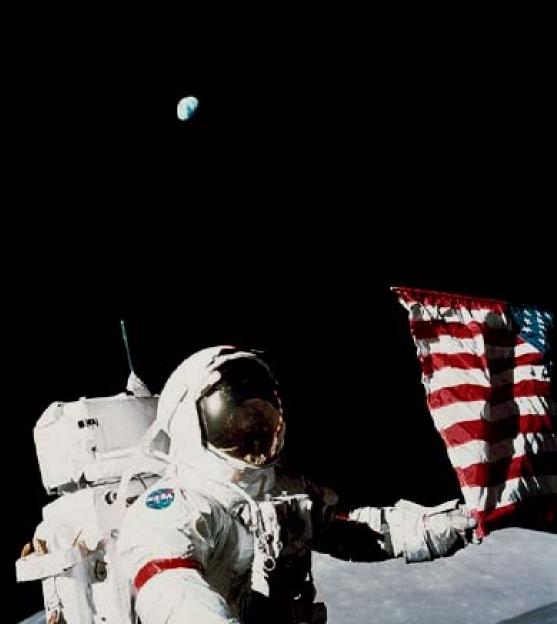


Cdr. John Young, Apollo 16 (April 1972) Apollo 11 site: "magnificent desolation" (Buzz Aldrin)

Note: On the Moon, the horizon appears closer and *is* closer!

#### Earth from Moon - a "pale blue dot" (Carl Sagan)

- Earth "hangs" in sky.
- Changes phase over 1 lunar month.
- Sun rises every lunar month
- ⇒14 days of sunlight (surface +100°C except for "shadow" regions)
- $\Rightarrow$ 14 days of darkness: (surface at -200 °C)
- Sun shines like a "giant spotlight", sharp shadows (no diffusing atmosphere).



#### Group Activity: Lunar Crash Landing!



#### Lunar Crash Landing: Recovered Items List

- 1. Box of Matches
- 2. Two 50kg oxygen tanks
- 3. Magnetic compass
- 4. Food concentrate
- 5. Self-igniting signal flare
- 6. Solar FM radio transmitter
- 7. Nylon rope, 30 meters





8. Constellation chart
9. Portable heat radiator
10. 100 liters of water
11. First Aid Kit
12. Inflating life raft
13. Helium tank & 600 balloons
14. Fire extinguishers



## Apollo 17: Time to go home

Eugene Cernan - note <u>dark</u> lunar dust

# Spend a day with your grand-child...2100?



#### Lunar Olympics 2276?

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