

SPECIAL FEATURES OF THE STUDENT BOOK

Colorful Pictures

The student book uses colorful images to teach the English language. The book includes pictures of children and adults from many different countries.

Perforated Pages

Each page can be removed easily from the student book to be given to a student.

Guided Reading

Lessons in this level feature longer reading selections, including both informational readings and stories related to the theme.

Name: _____

LESSON 38

ASTRONAUT TRAINING

As you listen to the lecture, use your pencil to point at each picture. Put a check mark next to each picture as it is described.



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LESSON 38 Name: _____

BIOGRAPHY OF ASTRONAUT JAMES IRWIN



The Earth reminded us of a Christmas tree ornament hanging in the blackness of space. As we got farther and farther away it diminished in size. Finally it shrank to the size of a marble, the most beautiful marble you can imagine. That beautiful, warm, living object looked so fragile, so delicate, that if you touched it with a finger it would crumble and fall apart. Seeing this has to change a man, has to make a man appreciate the creation of God and the love of God.

James Irwin, U.S. Astronaut*

James Irwin stood on the surface of the moon and looked back at Earth when he had these thoughts. Irwin was an astronaut on one of the missions to the moon—Apollo 15.

Irwin was born in 1930 and studied at the U.S. Naval Academy. He earned a master's degree in aeronautical engineering from the University of Michigan. Irwin trained to be a jet pilot and received many awards for his skill at flying aircraft. In 1966, he was selected for the astronaut corps and served as a backup astronaut for Apollo 10 and Apollo 12.

Finally, with Apollo 15, Irwin had his chance to travel into space. He was the pilot of the lunar module, successfully landing on the moon. On the moon, he drove the lunar rover for 18 hours and 30 minutes, collecting rocks and exploring the mountainous area. He was the first person to ever drive a vehicle on the moon! Altogether, James Irwin spent more than 3 days on the moon.

His time on the moon changed James Irwin forever. In 1972, a year after his moon journey, he retired from NASA. He founded an organization, the High Flight Foundation, and declared that he was a goodwill ambassador for the Prince of Peace. For the next 20 years, Irwin traveled all over the world. He told people that his time in space had made God more real to him. His stories of walking and driving on the moon inspired many young people to learn more about God.

In 1991, James Irwin made his final journey. This time his destination was heaven. He had a heart attack and traveled home to meet God.



*from Michael Reagan, ed., *The Hand of God* (Radnor, PA: Templeton Foundation Press, 1999), 158

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