



## THE STAR★WITNESS

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### Supplemental Educational Support Materials for Special Feature: “Lunar Double Whammy: Two Spacecraft Crash into Moon in Hunt for Water”

#### Discussion questions

**Q1.**

**Why does NASA want to look for water on the Moon?**

**Answer:**

NASA is searching for vital resources that astronauts will need to live on the Moon. One of these resources is water. It is doubtful that spacecraft could transport the needed volume of water to the Moon. Finding water on the Moon would make it easier to colonize the Moon.

**Q2.**

**If you had a chance to live on the Moon, what factors would you consider before making your decision to move there?**

**Answer:**

Some things to consider would be:

- Would you be alone, or could your family join you?
- How long would you be on the Moon? Could you return to Earth at any time?
- Will there be other people your age living on the Moon?
- How would you earn a living on the Moon?
- How difficult is it to survive on the Moon?
- Do you need to work continuously to provide the resources you need?
- Will there be enough space for you to have some privacy?
- Could you handle continuously being in the company of others?
- Will health care be provided? What happens if you get sick?
- Will there be a way to communicate with family and friends?

*Continued ...*

## Vocabulary words

### **Astronomer**

A scientist who studies the universe and the celestial bodies residing in it, including their composition, history, location, and motion. Many of the scientists at the Space Telescope Science Institute are astronomers. Astronomers from all over the world use the Hubble Space Telescope.

### **Hubble Space Telescope**

An orbiting telescope that collects light from celestial objects in visible, near-ultraviolet, and near-infrared wavelengths. The telescope's primary mirror is 2.4 m (8 ft) wide. It orbits the Earth about every 96 minutes and is powered by sunlight collected with its two solar arrays.

### **Orbit**

The act of traveling around a celestial body; or the path followed by an object moving in the gravitational field of a celestial body. For example, the planets travel around, or orbit, the Sun because the Sun's gravitational field keeps them in their paths, or orbits.

### **Satellite**

A man-made object that orbits Earth, the Moon, or another celestial object.