The Main Idea Strategy: Student Practice Lessons

Name

Date

Passage #8

**Going to the Moon**

Do you think that people will ever fly to Mars? That may seem crazy. At one time, many people thought that a man on the moon was like that. They said it couldn’t be done. It was only in the movies. Getting to the moon didn’t turn out to be so crazy after all.

In the 1950s, scientists built rockets that might fly to the moon. At the time, many people wondered about it. Could we really get to the moon? Why do we want to get there? How will we safely fly to the moon? These were hard questions.

At that time, many people wanted new ideas. John F. Kennedy then became president. He was young and hopeful about the future. When Kennedy spoke, people listened. Many believed him. He told people that the United States would get to the moon.

Many people then thought we could get to the moon. Scientists worked hard, but Kennedy never got to see people get to the moon. He was killed by someone. It was a sad day. Still, people kept working hard. NASA soon named the Florida space center after him.

In 1969, NASA sent people to the moon. The rocket was called Apollo 11. The world watched on television when the rocket landed. Neil Armstrong then stepped on the moon. He said “That’s one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind.” People were very excited about it. People wondered what was next for the future.

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