



Three Wise Kangaroos

Video – answer key

1. How many Moon landings have there been in total?

6

2. How long has it been since humans last landed on the Moon?

For nearly 50 years no humans have gone back.

3. How many lunar missions are planned over the next 20 years?

Dozens

4. What does Oliver Morton believe is one of the reasons why the Moon has become a hot property again?

Tourism. There is a huge number of very rich people in the world today who would like to travel to space.

5. How has the price of a space launch, the most expensive part of going to the Moon, changed over the years?

It has dropped substantially. In 1981 NASA paid almost \$62,000 a kilo to launch the Space Shuttle. Last year SpaceX's Falcon Heavy cost just under one and a half thousand dollars a kilo.

6. What resources does the Moon have?

In the past few decades ice has been discovered in craters of the Moon's poles. And there's the potential of mineable treasure including highly valuable platinum-group minerals left over from asteroid impacts. And the very rare isotope helium-3 absorbed by the Moon's surface from the sun and used in nuclear fusion to produce a clean source of energy.

7. What could going back to the Moon teach scientists?

As well as its resources the Moon can teach scientists more about the history of the solar system. And it could be a proving ground for further space exploration, for example for a manned mission to Mars.

8. What is the main driver for returning to the Moon?

Nationalism

9. Who is Dennis Hope?

He is the man who in 1980 claimed ownership of the Moon and started selling it off for around \$25 an acre. He says it netted him millions. Apparently even three former US presidents bought Moon plots from him.

10. What is the Outer Space Treaty?

An agreement signed in 1967 called the Outer Space Treaty. As well as trying to avoid an arms race the treaty set out certain restrictions. But the Outer Space Treaty only prohibits ownership of the Moon itself. The legality of who owns resources found on the Moon like metals or water is left up to interpretation.

11. What has The Law of the Sea got to do with the Moon?

High seas are the areas that belong to everyone and none at the same time. We could base the new Moon Treaty on this document because the Moon is similar to the ocean in terms of its status.



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12. What is America's attitude to the Law of the Sea?

America has refused to ratify the Law of the Sea believing as with the Moon in "finders keepers". So even if there is a new Moon treaty, America is unlikely to sign up to it if it's modelled on the Law of the Sea. Just how much of a mess won't be known until the first crater is mined or the first hotel is built.

Vocabulary – answer key

Match the halves to make useful verb+noun collocations.

to be	the next frontier for tourism
to carry	crews
to claim	ownership of the Moon
to avoid	an arms race
to set out	certain restrictions
to ratify	the Law of the Sea

Match the halves to make useful adjective+noun collocations.

hot	property
a proving	ground for further space exploration
lunar	missions
a manned	mission to Mars
precious	natural resources
the main	driver for returning to the Moon