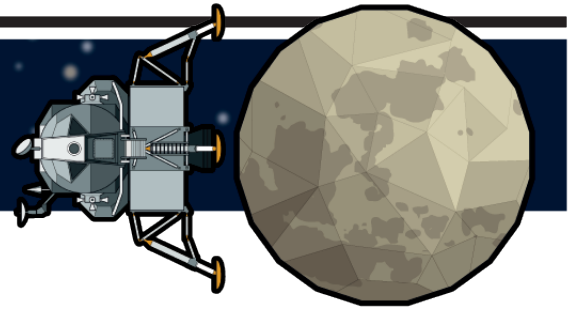
ACTIVITY 6.1 LEAVING A FOOTPRINT



The footprints that the Apollo astronauts left on the moon will still be there thanks to the lack of air and weather! But why did the footprints stick if there is no water on the Moon? By looking at the shape of the particles in Moon soil, sand and flour you will find out!

WHAT TO DO

1) Fill one tray with dry sand and the other with flour.

2) Take a shoe and carefully place it flat, sole side down, on top of the sand. Carefully push down and then remove the shoe.

What has happened to the footprint?

_____

_____

_____

3) Now clean the shoe and do the same again on the flour.

4) Use a baby wipe to carefully remove any flour from the bottom of the shoe.

What has happened to the footprint?

_____

_____

_____

YOU WILL NEED

- Two trays
- Sand
- A shoe *(Your teacher might provide you with one. If not, use a clean one from your group that has a deep pattern.)*
- Flour
- Baby wipes

THINK! What do we need to do to make this a fair test?

Based on these results do you think sand or flour is most like the soil on the moon?

Explain your choice.

I think _____

is most like the soil on the Moon

because _____

_____

_____

_____

AT THE MOON ROCK STATION

Take a small amount of your sand and flour over to the USB microscope. Draw a line from each sample to the words that you think describe them.

Sand **Flour**

Fluffy **Smooth** **Round** **Circular**

Flat **Jagged** **Sharp**

Finally, look at the lunar soil samples under the microscope. Are they more like sand or flour?

_____

So why do you think the Moon footprints will be there forever?

_____

_____

_____