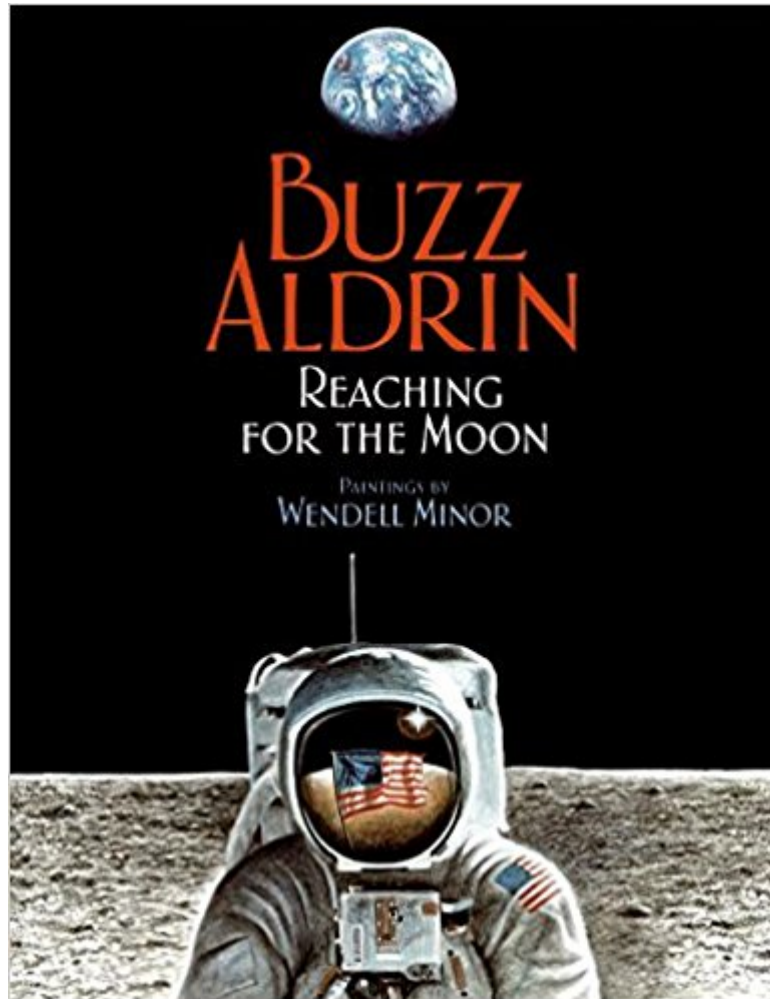




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Reaching For The Moon



Synopsis

I walked on the moon. This is my journey. But it didn't begin when I stepped on board Apollo 11 on July 1, 1969. It began the day I was born. Becoming an astronaut took more than education, discipline, and physical strength. It took years of determination and believing that any goal is possible—from riding a bike alone across the George Washington Bridge at age ten to making a footprint on the Moon. I always knew the Moon was within my reach—and that I was ready to be on the team that would achieve the first landing. But it was still hard to believe when I took my first step onto the Moon's surface. We all have our own dreams. This is the story of how mine came true.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 860 (What's this?)

Paperback: 40 pages

Publisher: HarperCollins; Reprint edition (May 20, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0060554479

ISBN-13: 978-0060554477

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 24 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #45,930 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #29 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Exploration & Discovery](#) #30 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Astronomy & Space > Aeronautics & Space](#) #55 in [Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Science & Technology](#)

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: 1 - 4

Customer Reviews

Starred Review. Grade 1-4 A readable autobiography by the Apollo 11 astronaut who was the second man to walk on the Moon. Aldrin recounts episodes in his life that influenced his choice to become part of the space program. He briefly describes how he got his nickname and incidents from his childhood; his first airplane ride; his time at West Point and as an Air Force pilot; joining NASA; and his missions in the Gemini and Apollo programs, including the lunar landing. Although he strains at times to make a connection between his experiences and his character (e.g., riding his

bike alone across the George Washington Bridge as evidence of his ability to do things himself), overall, the telling is entertaining and informative. A chronology of milestones in the history of flight is appended. Excellent, realistic paintings help describe the events mentioned in the text. Those depicting the space flights are particularly dramatic. Similar in style to Ann Turner's *Abe Lincoln Remembers* (HarperCollins, 2001), also illustrated by Minor, this book should be considered a first purchase. --Jeffrey A. French, Willoughby-Eastlake Public Library, Willowick, OH Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

Gr. 2-4. In this picture book, Aldrin, the second man to step foot on the moon, relates the life events that led him to the space program and his assignment on Apollo 11. In straightforward language, he recounts his boyhood, college at West Point, early flight training, and admission to the space program. Periodically, the facts of Aldrin's life are supplemented by some unexpected details that give a sense of what space travel feels like. He says, for example, that the liftoff of the powerful Saturn V rockets was so gentle "that if I had not been looking at the instruments, I would never have known we were on our way." He ends by connecting his boyhood interest in rock collecting with his primary activity while on the moon: picking up rocks. Minor's colorful and precisely rendered illustrations help this effort really take off, especially in the images of Aldrin's space journeys. A brief chronology, which blends events in the history of flight and space exploration with a few events of Aldrin's life, rounds out this solid title. Todd Morning Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

It's good. I like it. My four year old daughter has sat through a couple of readings already and it seems to hold her attention. It's basically a bio on Buzz Aldrin. It ends with his 1969 moonwalk with Neil Armstrong. He salutes the American flag for the photo op. The book outlines his goal to becoming an astronaut, how he got there through sports, determination, attending West Point, his military career (not my thing) and university education. He fails his first attempt at joining the astronaut program but tries again, and is accepted. It's a brilliant message on tenacity. Aldrin is a shameless self-promoter, and there is nothing wrong with it. It's 60s Americana in all its glory. The art is good, but a bit retro. The pace is pretty good. It feels a bit shorter and leaner than his other children's book on Mars. Hope to keep reading this one to the kids for a while. If your little ones are into space and astronauts get it. I recommend it. Four stars.

This is a children's book! Somehow I missed that part. I thought I was ordering the novel written for adult level. Luckily, when the book arrived, my nephew was visiting and I just handed it to him for his 7 year old. Worked out great!

My 7 year old and I both enjoyed this book.

A new favorite.

I thought this book was wonderful. The story and illustrations were great for third graders. Aldrin stresses some very important messages. Glad to add this book to my collection

Good kids book about the lunar missions. If your children like space this is for them.

What a great book!

One of the greatest joys of this parenthood has been watching my four-year-old daughter come to understand that this is a true story, that men actually traveled to the moon and walked on its surface. Even though the moon landings were something I grew up with, the story grows more powerful with each retelling. It is one of her favorites and one of mine as well.

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