

# John Glenn

The first American astronaut to orbit Earth!

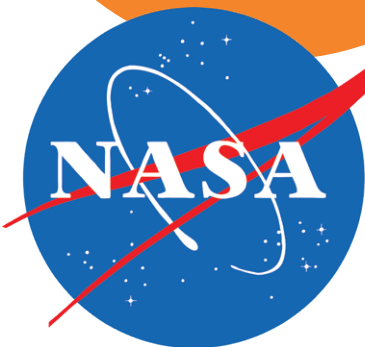
## Who Is He and What Did He Do?

- John was born in the USA in 1921.
- He was a combat pilot.
- He was a military test pilot.
- He was picked by NASA to become part of the 'Mercury Seven' crew.



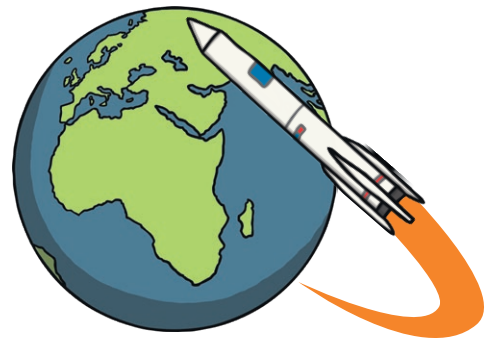
## Did You Know?

NASA invited him into space again at 77 years old because they wanted to learn what space did to older people.



## What Is He Remembered For?

- He set a speed record.
- He was the third US astronaut to have entered space.
- He was the first American to circle the Earth.
- He became a US senator for 24 years.
- He was the oldest person sent into space.
- He is considered a national hero.
- He had an airport renamed after him.



# Questions

1. When was he born? Tick one.

2017

1921

77

2. Who chose him to be one of the 'Mercury Seven'? Tick one.

no-one

aliens

NASA

3. What was he first to do? Tick one.

He was the first American to circle the Earth.

He was the first American to be 77.

He was the first American to go in an airport.

4. What did he have named after him? Tick one.

a planet

a country

an airport

5. **Tick two** true facts about John Glenn.

He was the oldest person sent into space.

He was the fastest runner on Earth.

He was a US senator for 24 years.

# Answers

1. When was he born? Tick one.

2017

**1921**

77

2. Who chose him to be one of the 'Mercury Seven'? Tick one.

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**NASA**

3. What was he first to do? Tick one.

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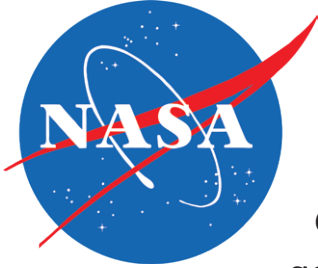
# John Glenn

John Glenn was the first American astronaut to orbit Earth.

## Who Is He and What Did He Do?

John Glenn was born in the USA in 1921.

He was a combat pilot and then he was one of the military test pilots picked by NASA to become part of the 'Mercury Seven' - the first ever group of American astronauts.



## What Were His Big Achievements?

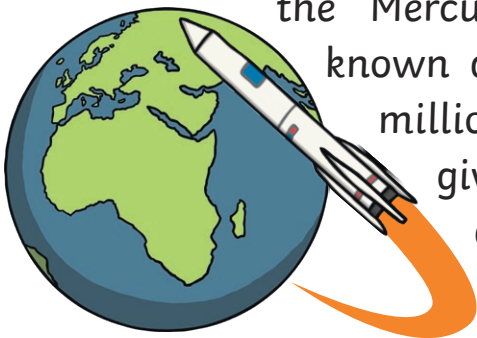
John set a speed record in 1957, flying from LA to New York in less than 3½ hours. He was the third US astronaut to have ever entered space. John became the first American to circle the Earth, after he made three orbits on board the 'Friendship 7' Mercury spacecraft. He was a US senator for 24 years and ran for president. At 77 years old, John boarded the 'Discovery' space shuttle and became the oldest person sent into space!

### Did You Know?

NASA invited him to go into space again when he was 77 because they wanted to learn what space did to older people.

## What Is He Remembered For?

John Glenn is remembered as one of the 'Mercury Seven'. He was known as a national hero and was greeted by millions of people in New York. He was also given a service medal and had the Columbus airport renamed after him when he died in 2016, at 95 years old.



# Questions

1. What kind of pilot was he before NASA? Tick one.

commercial pilot

combat and military test pilot

helicopter pilot

2. What was he part of? Tick one.

a group of tennis players on the Moon

a pop group singing around the world

the first ever group of American astronauts

3. What was the spacecraft called that he circled the Earth 3 times in? Tick one.

The John Glenn spacecraft

Friendship 7 Mercury spacecraft

The New York spacecraft

4. Find and copy one word which means 'went into'.

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Complete the sentence by adding in the missing words.

John boarded the \_\_\_\_\_

and became the \_\_\_\_\_ person sent into space!

# Answers

1. What kind of pilot was he before NASA? Tick one.

commercial pilot

**combat and military test pilot**

helicopter pilot

2. What was he part of? Tick one.

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The John Glenn spacecraft

**Friendship 7 Mercury spacecraft**

The New York spacecraft

4. Find and copy one word which means 'went into'.

**entered**

5. Complete the sentence by adding in the missing words.

John boarded the '**Discovery**' **space shuttle**  
and became the **oldest** person sent into space!

# John Glenn

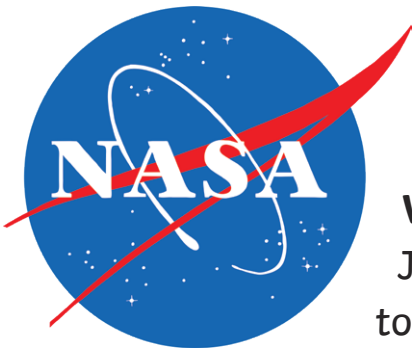
John Glenn was the first American astronaut to orbit Earth!

## Who Is He and What Did He Do?

John Glenn was born in Ohio, USA, in 1921. As a child, he absolutely loved aeroplanes. He later became a combat pilot for the military after Pearl Harbour. John also served in the Korean War, then became a test pilot, helping to develop the F8U Crusader. John was one of the military test pilots chosen by NASA in 1959 to become part of the 'Mercury



Seven' - the first ever group of American astronauts.



## What Were His Big Achievements?

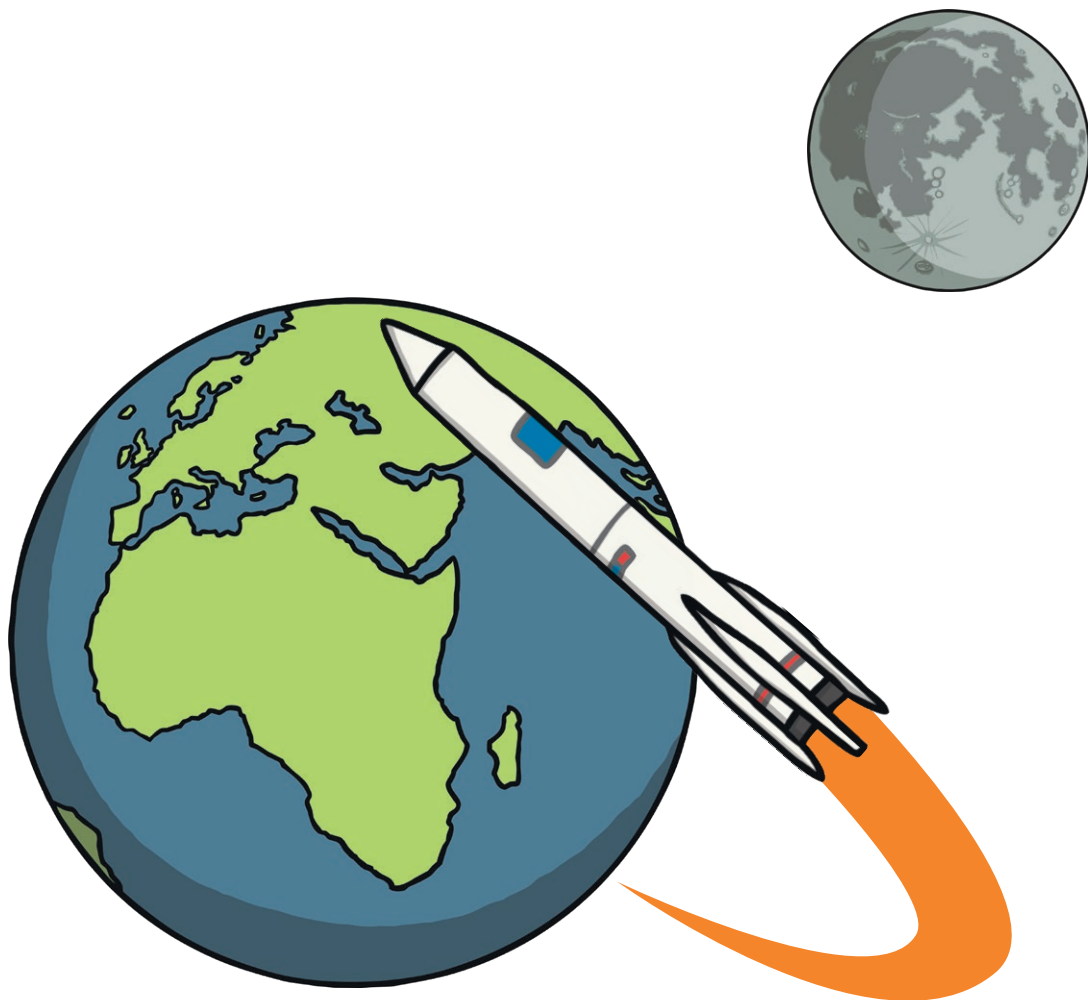
John set a speed record in 1957, flying from LA to New York in less than  $3\frac{1}{2}$  hours. He became the third US astronaut to have ever entered space. John spent 5 hours in space on board the 'Friendship 7' Mercury spacecraft and made three orbits around the Earth, becoming the first American to circle the Earth. John later became a US senator and served for 24 years, the longest-serving Ohio senator. He even ran for president. In 1998, when he was 77 years old, John boarded the 'Discovery' space shuttle and became the oldest person sent into space!

## Did You Know?

NASA invited him to go into space again when he was 77 because they wanted to learn what space did to older people.

### What Is He Remembered For?

John Glenn is remembered as one of the 'Mercury Seven'. He was known as a national hero after he became the first American to orbit the Earth in 1962. Millions of people greeted him with a big parade in New York when he returned. He was also given a service medal from the president at the time, John F. Kennedy. Columbus airport was recently renamed after him, as that was where one of his last public appearances was before he died in 2016, at 95 years old.





# Questions

1. What did he always love as a child? Tick one.

aliens

aeroplanes

flags

2. Who chose him in 1959 and what for?

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3. Tick two true facts.

He was one of the 'Mercury Seven'.

He studied aliens on board the Discovery space shuttle.

NASA wanted to find out what space did to older people.

4. Find and copy one word which means 'welcomed'.

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5. Complete the sentence.

John spent \_\_\_\_\_ in space on board the \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ and made three orbits around the  
\_\_\_\_\_, becoming the first \_\_\_\_\_  
to circle the Earth.

6. What do you think people thought about John Glenn and how do you know?

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# Answers

1. What did he always love as a child? Tick one.

aliens

**aeroplanes**

flags

2. Who chose him in 1959 and what for?

**He was chosen by NASA in 1959 to become part of the 'Mercury Seven; the first ever group of American astronauts.**

3. Tick two true facts.

**He was one of the 'Mercury Seven'.**

He studied aliens on board the Discovery space shuttle.

**NASA wanted to find out what space did to older people.**

4. Find and copy one word which means 'welcomed'.

**greeted**

5. Complete the sentence.

John spent **5 hours** in space on board the '**Friendship 7**' Mercury **spacecraft** and made three orbits around the **Earth**, becoming the first **American** to circle the Earth.

6. What do you think people thought about John Glenn and how do you know?

**Children's own answers.**

**They should include seeing him as a national hero.**