

Animals and Nature in Space Exploration

Space Exploration · Answer Key · 15 Questions

1. Which animal was the first living creature to orbit the Earth in 1957?

- A) Laika the dog**
- B) Ham the chimpanzee
- C) Able the monkey
- D) Félicette the cat

2. What type of animal was Ham, who became the first hominid to reach space in 1961?

- A) Gorilla
- B) Chimpanzee**
- C) Orangutan
- D) Gibbon

3. In 1947, what were the first animals sent into space by the United States to study radiation?

- A) Fruit flies**
- B) Mice
- C) Goldfish
- D) Rabbits

4. Which creature was the first cat to travel to space and return alive in 1963?

- A) Cosmo
- B) Felix
- C) Félicette**
- D) Luna

5. What organism was grown on the International Space Station to study how plants develop in microgravity?

- A) Sunflowers
- B) Lettuce**
- C) Cactus
- D) Orchids

6. In 1968, which animals were the first to circle the Moon and return to Earth?

- A) Mice
- B) Rats
- C) Tortoises**
- D) Frogs

7. What did scientists observe about spiders when they were sent to space to study their web-spinning behavior?

- A) They refused to eat
- B) They stopped spinning webs
- C) They spun webs in a different shape**
- D) They became larger

8. Which species of fish has been studied in space to understand bone density loss?

- A) Goldfish
- B) Medaka fish**
- C) Betta fish
- D) Clownfish

9. What do astronauts use to grow plants in space without using soil?

- A) Hydroponics**
- B) Sand
- C) Cotton
- D) Clay

10. Which small creatures were sent to space in 1960 and successfully recovered after their flight?

- A) Ants
- B) Bees
- C) Mice**
- D) Butterflies

11. What was the primary goal of sending fruit flies into space in 1947?

- A) To study radiation exposure**
- B) To see if they could fly
- C) To study hibernation
- D) To test their diet

12. What kind of aquatic animal was sent into space on the Space Shuttle to study balance and gravity?

- A) Jellyfish**
- B) Crabs
- C) Sea urchins
- D) Shrimp

13. Why were tardigrades (water bears) sent into space?

A) To test their survival in extreme conditions

- B) To see if they could breed
- C) To hunt pests
- D) To provide food for other animals

14. What was the name of the mission that sent two tortoises around the moon?

A) Zond 5

- B) Apollo 11
- C) Vostok 1
- D) Gemini 8

15. Which type of plant was the first to flower and produce seeds on the International Space Station?

A) Arabidopsis

- B) Rose
- C) Tulip
- D) Fern