



Name: _____

Timeline of American Space Missions

Here's a timeline of some exciting American space missions! This will help you see when these important events happened and what each mission accomplished.

1961 - First American in Space

Mission: Freedom 7

Astronaut: Alan Shepard

Accomplishment: Alan Shepard became the first American to travel to space.

1962 - First American to Orbit Earth

Mission: Friendship 7

Astronaut: John Glenn

Accomplishment: John Glenn became the first American to orbit Earth, circling the planet three times.

1969 - First Moon Landing

Mission: Apollo 11

Astronauts: Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin

Accomplishment: Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin were the first humans to walk on the Moon. Neil Armstrong said, "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind."

1977 - Voyager Missions Begin

Missions: Voyager 1 and Voyager 2

Goal: To explore the outer planets, including Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune.

Accomplishment: These spacecraft are still traveling and sending information back to Earth from deep space!

1990 - Hubble Space Telescope Launched

Mission: Hubble Space Telescope

Goal: To take clear pictures of planets, stars, and galaxies from space.

Accomplishment: Hubble has sent back millions of beautiful images, helping us learn more about space.



Name: _____

2004 - Mars Rover Spirit Lands on Mars

Mission: Mars Exploration Rover (Spirit)

Goal: To explore Mars and search for signs of past water.

Accomplishment: Spirit explored Mars for six years and sent back information about the planet's surface.

2012 - Curiosity Rover Lands on Mars

Mission: Mars Science Laboratory (Curiosity)

Goal: To study the Martian climate and geology.

Accomplishment: Curiosity is still exploring Mars and searching for clues about past life on the planet.

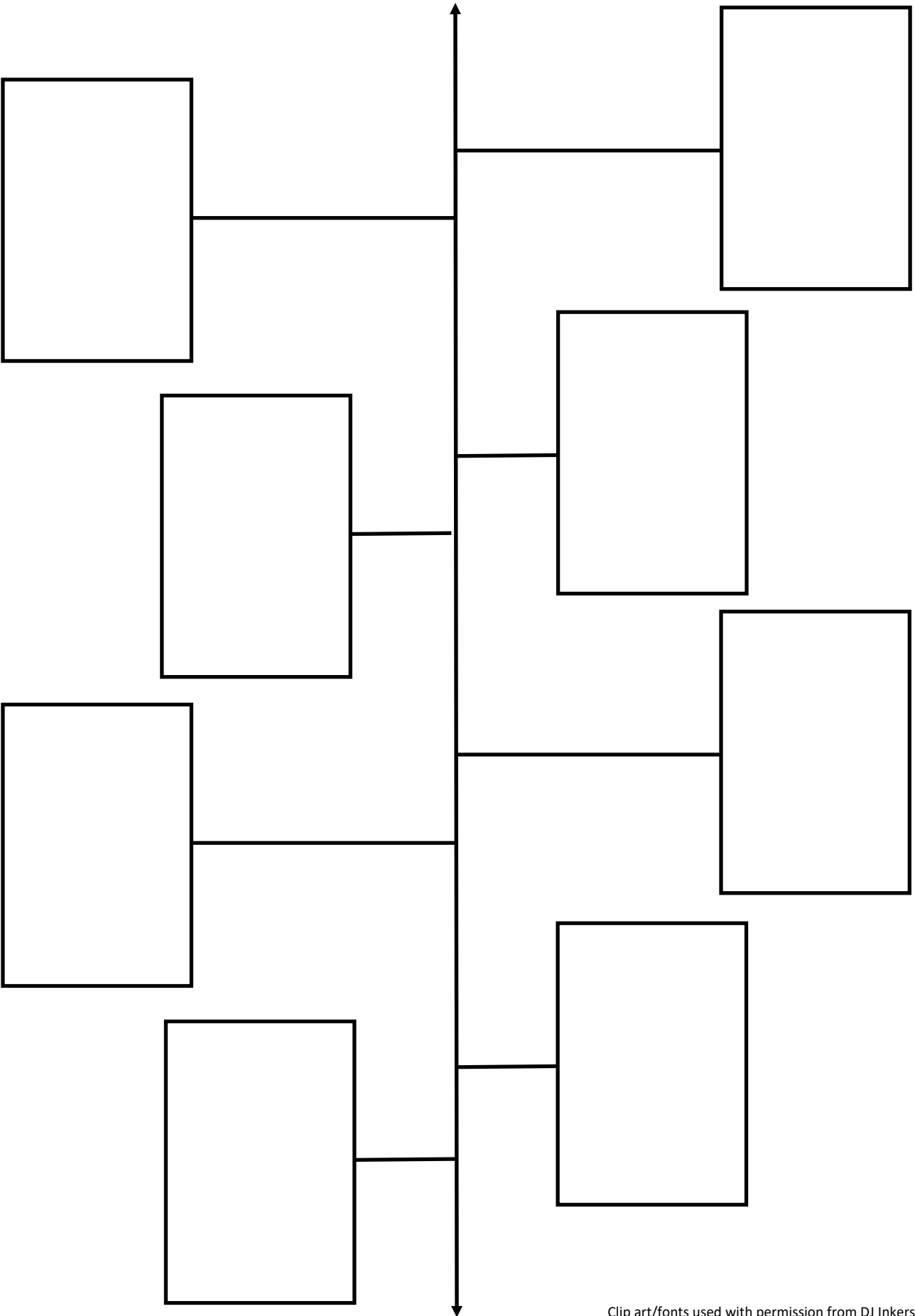
2015 - New Horizons Reaches Pluto

Mission: New Horizons

Goal: To study Pluto and other objects in the Kuiper Belt.

Accomplishment: New Horizons sent back the first close-up images of Pluto, showing us what this distant world looks like.

AMERICAN SPACE MISSIONS TIMELINE



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