Process Paper
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Ever since I was a child, I have been in awe of the world around me. This love for the world eventually extended out to places beyond our planet, space. When I was met with the challenge of National History Day, I immediately looked for a way to incorporate one of my hobbies into the project. The Space Race was one of the most recent "technological revolutions," and in the end, I decided to use these years of development for the project.

I conducted my research in a variety of ways. I first began by going to my local library and taking out every single book I could find concerning the topic of space, especially the ones about the Space Race of the 1960s. After reading through four books, I decided to turn to the large world of the internet for further and deeper research. I began by reading various articles published by NASA and other sources.

Then, to prove the credibility of some of the more obscure articles, I dove into multiple online archives, and sent requests to the National Archives for extra proof. I also looked for newspaper clippings, advertisements, and news recordings to try and make my evidence as concrete as possible. I learned about the politics involved with the Space Race, all the technological advancements made to accomplish a feat of bringing people to the moon, and about the human computers which calculated the routes of astronauts.

At the beginning of my research, I decided that a display board would fit my needs well. All I needed to do was organize my thoughts into the board, and everything would be done. However, as I began collecting more and more information, I realized that I had too many facts to fit on a board. Consequently, I was forced looked to other ways to express them. Soon, I discovered the website format. This format allowed me to add many more pictures and words without having a colossal structure to bring with me. I first began creating this website using a website builder, inserting all the information that I needed, creating more subcategories as I went. After all the "barebones" information was inputted into the system, I then turned to customize my website to fit an overarching subject of space, focusing on a more interesting and interactive design.

My topic fits almost perfectly into this year's theme. The Space Race was essentially another technological revolution that popularized the use of space. Without this event, there would be no GPS, no weather forecasting, and the life that we humans are now used to would be completely different. In addition to the vital advancements made in the time, the Space Race also allowed for ethnic minorities to be employed in "high tech" industries. Starting with African American women and eventually branching out to many other races, the Space Race necessitated for the use of everyone's talents to win and beat the Soviets.