

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Theme: *A Walk on the Moon*

**Directions:** The moon landing in 1969 brought people together during difficult times. In this activity, you will consider how this idea, or theme, is developed in the play *A Walk on the Moon*.

## SECTION 1: What made 1969 a difficult time?

Below are three challenges that the U.S. was facing in 1969. Briefly explain each challenge. Use text evidence from the play and the photo captions. We explained the first challenge for you.

### 1. The Vietnam War

America was fighting a “brutal” war in Vietnam, with the U.S. and South Vietnam on one side and North Vietnam on the other. Many Americans—and a huge number of Vietnamese people—were dying. (By the end of the war, 58,000 Americans and an estimated 3.8 million Vietnamese would die.) And the war was controversial; anti-war protests were held across the U.S. (12, caption on 14).

**How does the Vietnam War affect Kathy and her family in particular?**

### 2. Recent Assassinations

### 3. The Cold War

**SECTION 2: How did the moon landing bring people together?**

Answer the questions below to explain how the idea that the moon landing brought people together is developed in the play. Use text evidence.

**4. How does the moon landing bring Kathy and her dad together?**

**5. How does the moon landing bring Kathy and her mom together?**

**6. How does the moon landing bring the people in Kathy's neighborhood together?**

**7. According to information in the captions, how did the moon landing bring people across the country and around the world together?**

**SECTION 3: How does Neil Armstrong's quote help develop the theme?**

**8. Consider what Neil Armstrong said after taking his first step on the moon: "That's one small step for man, one giant leap for mankind." How does this quote connect to the idea that the moon landing brought people together?**