

Welcome to the new frontier in human discovery

Terra Nova

By the year 2300, humans had spread across the Solar System. From the cloud refineries of Venus to the new colonies on Titan, people had constructed new homes for humanity in and around the planets and moons within striking distance of Earth.

Great leaps in technology had allowed humans to make the leap from Earth to other planets and, more importantly, construct the bio-domes that allowed people to live in the harsh conditions of other worlds.

Despite these new wonders in human development, people still yearned to explore beyond the borders of the solar system; they dreamt of finding another planet in the stars that would sustain life without the need for technology.

A huge construction program was undertaken, and in the first year of the twenty-third century, it was complete. Three massive star ships had been built that were capable of space travel between stars and carried enough people and materials to start new societies on alien planets. Their mission was simple: to find a new planet that could support life and start a new colony.

The third of these colony ships, *Helios' Light*, was the last of the ships to set sail on their voyage of exploration.

For fifty-six Earth years, the crew of *Helios' Light* travelled the stars experiencing wondrous sights and challenging times.

With each planet they visited, the morale of the crew dropped: none showed promise of life. But just as people started muttering about returning to Earth, the Colony ship entered a new star system and found it: a blue pearl shining in the blackness of space. It was a planet that could support life. From blue seas, green lands and clouds, it looked like Earth.

Helios' Light entered the planet's orbit and the captain named the crew's new home 'Terra Nova'. A new chapter has started for the people aboard this colony ship. They no longer have to worry about surviving in the depths of space; they now have a new challenge: to start a new society on the surface of 'Terra Nova'.

WHAT IS TERRA NOVA?

Terra Nova is fictional setting for primary school maths activities and lessons. In this fictional world, children will play the role of the captain of a colony space ship. They have discovered Terra Nova - a new planet that will support life – and it is their job to solve all the problems that come along with starting a new society on an alien planet.

The story of Terra Nova provides a narrative and a context in which mathematical learning can take place. It allows teachers to frame mathematical lessons in the context of problems that may be encountered on an alien planet but have their roots in real, Earth problems - from dividing up scout teams for exploration, to designing capital cities that will have enough space for everyone to live, work and have fun!

MEET YOUR CREW

Good Morning Captain, the whole crew is buzzing with excitement at finding Terra Nova and we are all itching to get down to the surface after being cooped up on in this ship for so long. As our leader you're going to face many challenges and difficult decisions, but don't worry you will not be alone: you have a whole staff of experts to help you. Why don't we meet them!



My name is Kos Mose and I am your tactical advisor. In effect I am your second-in-command and it is my job to make sure that you have all the information that you need. If there's any problems, I'm usually the first to know.



This Bill Ding, he is the chief Engineering Officer. It is his job to overlook all the construction work that will need to be done when we land on the surface of Terra Nova. He's going to be a very busy person once we establish ourselves on the surface. He will be able to advise you about how we collect the resources we need and how to use them to build our new homes.



This is D. Ann Bowl-Lance, she is the Chief Medical Officer. It is her job to make sure that all our crew are fit and healthy. When we land on the surface, make sure you stay in contact with her because we really do not know what will be on the planet: there may be animals we have never seen or diseases we have never encountered.



This Gunnar, Gunnar Fiendemfast, He is the First Scout. His job is to lead the skilled group of scouts that we have on board. The scouts will be the first people that we send down to the planet to make sure that it is safe for the landing of the colony pod. I'm sure Gunnar will make sure he is leading from the front on that mission.

