another successful parachute test for Orion how we're getting back to the moon and an Apollo 11 virtual experience a few of the stories to tell you about this week at NASA we successfully tested our Orion's spacecraft's parachute system recently at the US Army proving ground in Yuma Arizona it's the seventh in a series of eight tests to certify the parachutes for missions with astronauts meanwhile another milestone for the program in Houston the mock crew module for use in the upcoming s and abort two tests was
powered on for the first time as an abort to is a full stress test of Orion's launch abort system planned for April 2019 in case you hadn't heard NASA is going back to the moon a new vertical video on our Instagram takes you behind the scenes to show five ways we're working to get astronauts back to the moon in preparation for missions even farther into the solar system to learn more about our moon and the agency's exploration campaign to return to the lunar surface and eventually send humans to Mars go to nasa.gov slash moon to
Mars July 20th March the 49th

anniversary of Apollo 11s historic landing on the moon earlier this year

our spin-off publication highlighted Apollo 11 VR a virtual experience made with NASA data to mark the anniversary

here's a look at it in action immersive VR education a virtual reality based education company created Apollo 11 VR

the company used the trove of online NASA data audio and visual files from

the Apollo missions to recreate the sights and sounds of the first moon

landing in authentic detail developers


also worked with Apollo 16 astronaut

Charlie Duke who tested an early version

and helped improve the

accuracy of the control panel for the

final release Apollo 11 VR is one of the

many NASA spin-off products developed as

a result of the agency's long history of

transferring technology to the private

sector the Sophia flying telescope

completed seven weeks of celestial

observations from Christchurch New

Zealand this deployment marked the first

time the observatories instrument that

studies celestial magnetic fields was

used in the southern hemisphere the
research could help astronomers better understand how magnetic fields affect processes that occur at the centre of the galaxy and around newly forming stars observations made during the flights included the black hole at the centre of our Milky Way galaxy the tarantula nebula supernova and more that's what's up this week @nasa for more on these and other stories follow us on the web at nasa.gov slash Twan