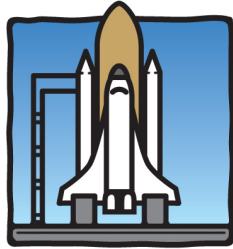


# Eight Days Gone

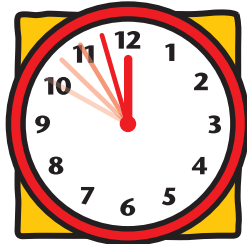
## A RIF VOCABULARY SCAFFOLD



**launchpad:** the place rockets take off from



**countdown:** a measure of the time until something happens



**bated breath:** holding your breath because you're excited, nervous, or worried about something



**soaring:** flying or gliding, like a bird or a kite



**data:** facts, information, research



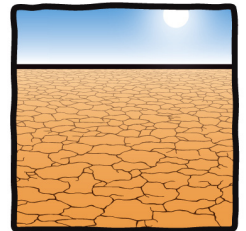
**vast:** big, huge, wide



**bulky:** big, thick, hard to move in



**barren:** empty; there are no plants or animals



**tranquil:** calm, peaceful, not busy



**to pave the way:** to get things ready, make it easier for other people to do what you did

