

**Actuele lesbrief Engels – Smashing**

**Voor de docent**

De NASA heeft een nieuwe ruimtesonde gelanceerd die recht op een asteroïde afkoerst.

**ERK-niveau**

Lezen A2 - Lezen om informatie op te doen – Kan de hoofdlijn begrijpen van eenvoudige teksten in een tijdschrift, krant of op een website. (LEA2-3b)

Leesstrategieën - Kan zijn of haar begrip van de algemene betekenis van korte teksten over alledaagse onderwerpen van concrete aard gebruiken om de vermoedelijke betekenis van onbekende woorden af te leiden uit de context.

Kan gebruikmaken van tweetalige (online) woordenboeken om woordbegrip te controleren, indien toegestaan.

**Intro**

Why did NASA launch a spacecraft that is flying directly to an asteroid?

Assignment 1

a Name seven or more words related to space.

**Smashing**

You may have seen it in science fiction movies: big rocks flying through space. Sometimes they come dangerously close to our planet.

What can we do? Read more [here](https://www.cbc.ca/kidsnews/post/why-nasa-is-trying-to-smash-a-spacecraft-into-an-asteroid).

Assignment 2

Read the text. Connect the words and expressions in the two columns that have the same meaning.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. to smash
 | 1. to let something change its path or direction
 |
| 1. to collide
 | 1. to circle around
 |
| 1. the first of its kind
 | 1. earlier
 |
| 1. to launch
 | 1. the first one like this
 |
| 1. target
 | 1. to hit something with strong force
 |
| 1. to orbit
 | 1. to break something into many pieces
 |
| 1. to take something off its course
 | 1. not dangerous
 |
| 1. beforehand
 | 1. possible
 |
| 1. in the foreseeable future
 | 1. to send a rocket into the air
 |
| 1. well in advance
 | 1. soon
 |
| 1. harmless
 | 1. some time before something happens
 |
| 1. potential
 | 1. thing at which an attack is aimed
 |
| 1. threats
 | 1. things that could cause trouble, harm, etc.
 |

Assignment 3

a True or false?

1 NASA sent a rocket into space to smash into an asteroid.

2 NASA is trying to move asteroids to make room for space travel.

3 NASA wants to find out if they can move asteroids that could collide with Earth.

4 DART is short for: Double Asteroid Redirection Test.

5 There has never been anything like the DART mission before.

6 In a new science fiction movie an asteroid and Earth collide.

7 We will know if the DART mission was successful in 10 months.

b What is NASA?

1 A code name for the Double Asteroid Redirection Test.

2 The Planetary and Space Science Centre at the University of New Brunswick.

3 The short name for the Vandenberg Air Force Base on the California coast.

4 The U.S. government agency responsible for space science and technology.

c Why are scientists testing if they can smash an asteroid?

1 If we don’t do anything now, most of Earth’s animal species will be killed.

2 The risk of a collision between an asteroid and Earth is very small, but they want to be prepared.

3 There is a big risk of a collision between an asteroid and Earth, so they want to be prepared.

4 They are tracking many potentially dangerous asteroids and want to smash them all.