

Name:

As the moon orbits around Earth, half of its surface is lit by the Sun. The rest of the moon's surface remains in darkness. The moon appears to change shape as different sections of the moon are lit by sunlight. When the moon is positioned between Earth and the Sun, the lit side faces away from Earth. In this "new moon" phase, the side facing Earth is dark.

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However, as the moon continues its orbit around Earth, more of the lit part of the moon's surface becomes visible. First, there is a small crescent, or sliver, of light visible. It is shaped like a curved sword. As the sliver of light gets larger every night, the crescent gets larger. As the lit portion "waxes," or grows, each night, more of the surface seems to swell into view. This "gibbous," or humped or swollen, area grows until a full moon is visible about two weeks after the new moon. The lit portion of the moon then appears to gradually shrink or "wane" through a gibbous stage and a crescent stage. Then, another new moon appears when no light is visible. Despite the changes in the amount of observable

light, the same side of the moon is always facing Earth. The moon's schedule is the basis for the concept of a month. Some years there are 12 full moons. In others there are 13 full moons. It takes almost 30 days for the moon to go through all of its stages.



What Did You Learn

1.	In what phase of the moon is the side facing Earth dark?								
	A	crescent	\bigcirc	gibbous					
	₿	new moon	D	both A and C					
2.	Whi	ch word means "humped" or "swollen"?							
	A	crescent	\bigcirc	new					
	₿	gibbous	D	moon					
3.	Whi	ch phase comes after the new moon?							
	A	waxing crescent	\bigcirc	waxing gibbous					
	₿	waning crescent	D	waning gibbous					
4.	Whi	ch phase comes directly before a new moon?							
	A	waning crescent	\bigcirc	waning gibbous					
	₿	full moon	D	waxing gibbous					

I look like a sliver of light in the night sky.

What Am I

Waxing and Waning



Name: _

Directions: Read the information. Respond to the questions below.

The moon goes through several phases during each month. When the lighted portion of the moon is growing larger, it is said to be *waxing*. When the lighted portion of the moon is growing smaller, it is said to be *waning*. The humped or swollen phase of the moon is called *gibbous*. The phase of the moon that is shaped like a curved sliver or sword is called the *crescent* phase. When no light is visible on the moon, it is in the *new moon* phase. When the moon is entirely round and lighted, it is in its *full moon* phase.



If the moon is shaped like a curved sword and growing, it is in its *waxing crescent* phase. If the moon is shaped like a curved sword and shrinking, it is in its *waning crescent* phase.

If the moon is shaped like a swollen balloon and growing, it is in its *waxing gibbous* phase. If the moon is shaped like a swollen balloon and shrinking, it is in its *waning gibbous* phase. Another word for the stages of the moon's appearance is *phases*.

Your Moon

- 1. What word means "to swell or grow larger"?
- 2. What term means "to shrink or grow smaller"?
- 3. Which word means "swollen"?
- 4. Which word refers to a curved sword or shape?
- 5. Of the many shapes mentioned above, which shape of the moon have you seen recently? Draw a picture to illustrate this shape.

- 6. Have you seen the moon during the daytime? When? What shape was it?
- **7.** The great scientist Isaac Newton said that his long studies of the moon gave him headaches. What do you think is complicated about studying the moon?
- 8. If you could go to the moon, what would you like to see or do? Why?_____

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Warm-Up 120

Name:



The moon is constantly seen from Earth through one of the phases shown above.

The moon goes through one complete cycle in about 30 days (exactly 29 days and 13 hours).

Directions: Use the information above to answer these questions.

- 1. In what phase is the moon not seen from Earth?_____
- 2. In which two phases is the least amount of the moon visible at night?
- 3. In which phase is the moon fully visible as a round ball?
- 4. In which two phases is the moon partially visible as a squashed or humped ball of light?

5. In what phase is it easiest to see at night for traveling?_____

- 6. Which moon phase do you like most? Why? What can you do best when the moon is in this phase?
- 7. About how many days does the moon remain in each phase?_____
- 8. What is the moon going to look like tonight? (Check your answer tonight.)

Moon Facts and Figures

Name: _____

Age of the moon:	4.6 billion years (same as Earth)					
Diameter:	2,160 miles					
Surface Gravity (compared to Earth):	0.17 (17%)					
Time to orbit Earth:	27.3 Earth days					
Time to rotate on its axis:	27.3 Earth days					
Time from new moon to new moon:	29 days, 13 hours					
Number of new moons in one Earth year:	12 to 13					
Surface temperature:	Low: -280°F					
	High: +260°F					
	Average: -100°F					
Distance from Earth:	Maximum: 251,966 miles					
	Minimum: 225,744 miles					
	Average: 238,855 miles					
Amount of oxygen in the atmosphere:	none					
Amount of water on moon's surface:	none					

Knowing Your Moon

Use the information above to answer these questions.

- 1. What is the farthest distance the moon gets from Earth?
- 2. What is the closest distance the moon gets to Earth?
- 3. What is the difference between the farthest and closest distances?
- 4. What is the lowest surface temperature of the moon?
- 5. What is the highest temperature the moon reaches?
- 6. What is the total difference in temperature from high to low?
- 7. Do things weigh more or less on the moon than on Earth? (See surface gravity.)
- 8. What is the average temperature of the moon?
- 9. What conditions would make the moon an unlivable place to be?

Answer Key



Page 120 What Is Your Weight on Mars?			Page 126 Phases of the Moon									
Mercury Venus Earth Mars	38% 91% 100% 38%	38 lbs. 91 lbs. 100 lbs. 38 lbs.			 Waning crescent, waxing crescent full moon waning gibbous, waxing gibbous 				6. A 7. a 8. A	Inswer bout 4 Inswer	ers will vary. 4 ers will vary.	
Jupiter Saturn Uranus Neptune Pluto Try This: Page 121 Plane	upiter236%236 lbs.saturn92%92 lbs.Iranus89%89 lbs.leptune112%112 lbs.Pluto6%6 lbs.Try This:Answers will vary.Page 121Distances in the Solar SystemPlanetDistance in Scientific/Exponential Terms				 Page 127 Moon Facts and Figure 1. 251,966 miles 2. 225,744 miles 3. 26,222 miles 4280°F 5. 260°F Page 128 The Moon Word Study Answers will vary. 				 540 degrees much less -100°F severe cold/no water/ no air 			
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Neptune 2,794 × 10 to the 6th power				jellylish		sea siais						
Pluto 3,672 × 10 to the 6th power				ро	rcupine fish		lanterniisn			giant squid		
1. Ura	anus					seabirds	Se	ea cucumi	oers		tripod	tisn
2. Ma	rs					whales		viper fisi	า		eelpo	outs
3. Jup	piter					seals		whales			octopi	uses
4. Plu 5. Um	ito				r	nanatees	t	lashlight f	ish			
 Uranus and Saturn Most students will notice a near doubling between 				Se	ea dragons		anglerfish					
 Most students will notice a field doubling between some of the outer planets until Neptune 					plankton		gulper eels					
Page 122 Asteroids: The Failed Planet					liontish	SC	scaly dragonfish					
1. C 2. D 3. C 4. D					sunfish		sea slugs					
Who Am I	? Gaspra					sharks		brittle stars				
Page 123	Solar System	n Word Study				coral		hatchetfis	sh			
Answers v	will vary.							sharks				
Unit 20	•							kelp plan	ts			
Page 124 The Moon in Motion			Page	131 Chartin	ng the O	ceans						
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