

Beavers Space Badge

Identify Some Of The Things You Can See In The Night Sky, For Example Stars, Planets And The Moon

Moon Phases & Oreo Biscuits®

By Samantha Eagle

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Identify Some Of The Things You Can See In The Night Sky, For Example Stars, Planets And The Moon

Moon Phases & Oreo Biscuits[©]

Overview

The children will discuss what they see in the sky at night. Then you will do a little talking exercise about the phases of the moon. Then they will make them using 'Oreo Biscuits'.

Preparation Before The Meeting

1. Print out this document for the leader
2. Print out the 'Moon Phases' handout for two children sharing

Materials Needed For Each Child

- Plastic Knife, paper plate and some coloured pencils
- 8 x Oreo Biscuits (154g pack has 16 biscuits in them)

Activity One - Directions/Leader Speak

1. **Speak** – Over the next couple of weeks we are going to be working on our 'Space Badge'. One of the tasks we need to complete for this badge is to identify some of the things you can see in the sky at night.
2. **Speak** – Can anyone tell me what sort of things you think you can see?
3. **Speak** – (Take answers praise and say – Yes that's right you can see Stars, Planets and the Moon at night
4. **Speak** – In another task for this badge we will look at the different planets in our solar system and the different types of stars that there are
5. **Speak** – Tonight we are going to look at why the moon looks different on some nights. This is because each month our Moon passes through eight phases. These phases are named after how much of the moon we can see, and whether the amount visible is increasing, or decreasing each day.
6. **Direction** – Hand out the 'Moon Phases' Handout and read through the names. Using the descriptions below tell them why it has the name that it has. (they don't need to see the text just the picture)
7. **Speak** – I am going to start with the Last Quarter Half Moon and work my way round anticlockwise so as I talk about each moon phase just look at its picture

Last Quarter Half Moon	During a Last Quarter Moon we can see exactly 1/2 of the Moon's lighted surface.
Waning Crescent	Finally, during a Waning Crescent Moon, you can only see a small sliver of the Moon, and only just before morning. Each night less of the Moon is visible for less time.
New Moon	The moon is up in the day, and down at night. Because of this you cannot see the moon during this phase.
Waxing Crescent	During this phase, part of the Moon is beginning to show. This lunar sliver can be seen each evening for a few minutes just after sunset.

Moon	We say that the Moon is "waxing" because each night a little bit more is visible for a little bit longer.
First Quarter Half Moon	During First Quarter, 1/2 of the moon is visible for the first half of the evening, and then goes down, leaving the sky very dark.
Waxing Gibbous	When most of the Moon is visible we say it is a Gibbous Moon. You can see all just a sliver of the moon. During this phase, the Moon remains in the sky most of the night.
Full Moon	When we can see the entire face of the moon, we call it a Full Moon. A full moon will rise just as the evening begins, and will set about the time morning begins.
Waning Gibbous Moon	During this phase, we can see all but a sliver of the Moon. We begin to see less and less of the Moon each night. This is what the word "waning" means.

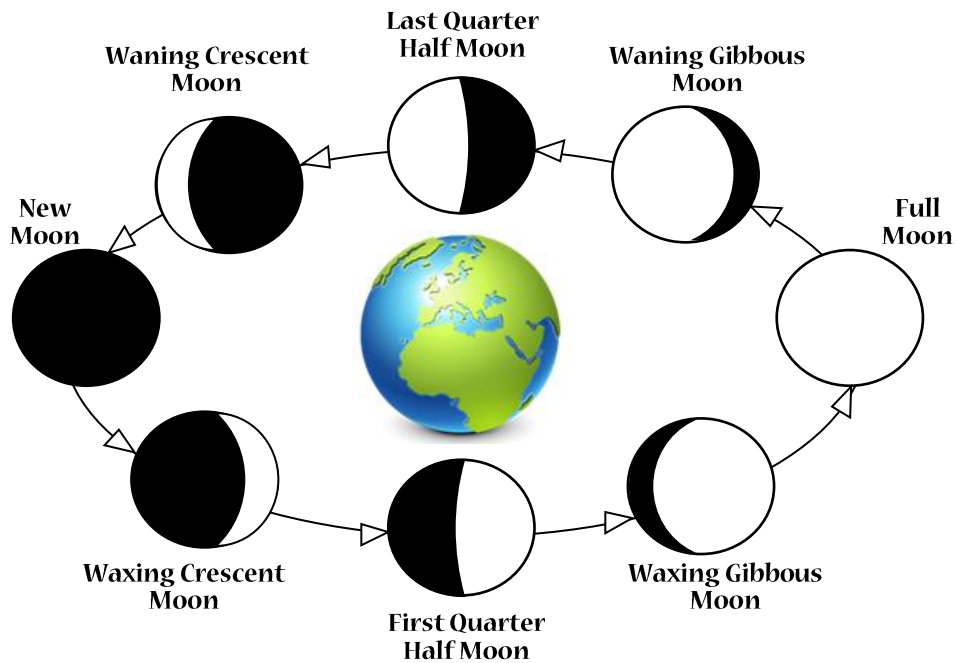
8. **Speak** – It takes our Moon about 29.5 days to completely cycle through all eight phases. Occasionally (about every 2.7 years) there are two Full Moons in the same month. This is referred to as a **Blue Moon**. Which is where the saying "Once in a Blue Moon" comes from!

Activity Two - Directions/Leader Speak

1. **Speak** – Okay now that you know a little bit about the moon I am going to give you 8 Chocolate Oreo biscuits which you are not allowed to eat only joking well not yet anyway
2. **Speak** – You are going to take the tops of the biscuits. Then using this little plastic knife I want you to shape the cream into the shape of each phase of the moon. So use your handout to help you.
3. **Direction** – You can ask them to write the phases on the plate maybe show them this picture so they understand what you mean or do an example yourself beforehand so they know what's expected of them
4. **Direction** - Hand out the paper plate, biscuits and plastic knife to teach child
5. **Direction** - It might be a bit unfair if a child can't eat the biscuits at the end for one reason or another especially if everyone else is eating them so maybe if you know this beforehand you could buy a little treat that they could eat

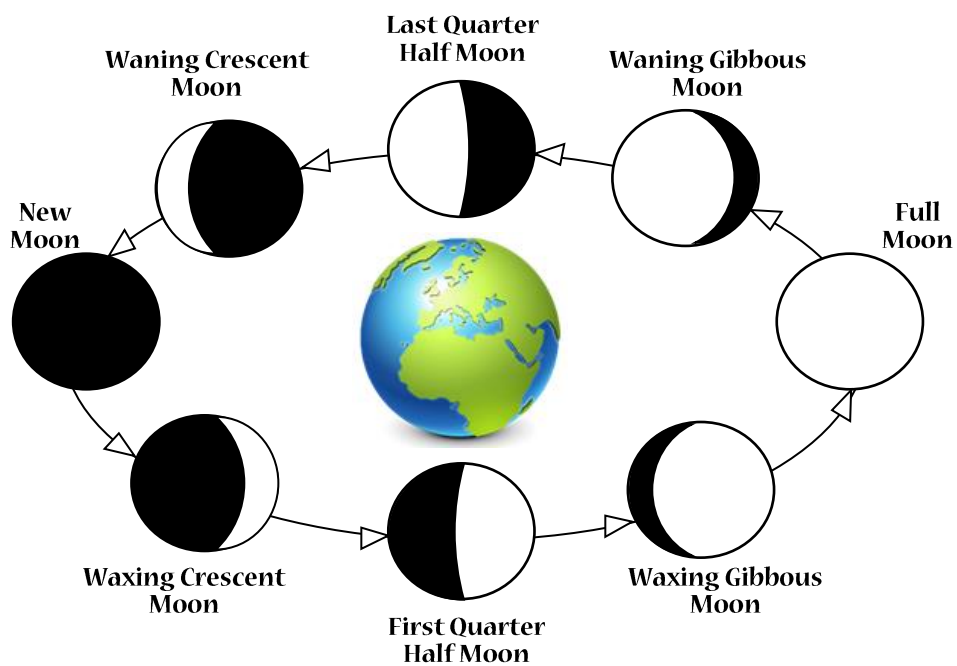


Eight Moon Phases



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