



Oreo Moon Phases



Why Does it Work?

The moon reflects the light of the Sun rather than creating its own light. The phases are caused by the moon's revolution around Earth, and the amount of sunlight reflecting off its surface. In sequential order, the phases are: New Moon, Waxing Crescent, First Quarter, Waxing Gibbous, Full Moon, Waning Gibbous, Third Quarter, and Waning Crescent. The phases are a cycle that repeats once a month. As the moon moves between the Earth and the Sun, sunlight hits the back of the moon which faces away from Earth. To us, the moon appears completely dark (New Moon). When the moon revolves so that Earth is between it and the Sun, sunlight hits the side of the moon that is facing Earth. We can see a complete circle of the moon (Full Moon).

Career Connection:

Astronomers study planets, moons, stars, galaxies, meteors, comets and their interactions with each other. They must have an in depth knowledge of physics to understand how forces such as gravity change throughout space. Astronomers work together sharing their knowledge in order to better understand how the universe works at microscopic and macroscopic levels.

Resources: <http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/oreo-moon/en/>

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Life Cycle of the Moon



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Draw the phase of the moon you see each night and watch how it changes during the month.

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday
