

# Phases of the Moon

## Supplies

- Styrofoam ball of a size similar to a tennis ball
- Bamboo skewer
- Lamp with removable shade or a desk lamp



## Instructions

1. Earth—Child  
Sun—Lamp  
Moon—Ball



2. Poke the sharp end of a bamboo skewer halfway through the Styrofoam ball.
3. Darken a room by turning off all the lights. It's best to do this activity at night when it's dark outside or you can cover the windows with a sheet or blanket. Ask a groovy grown-up for help.
4. Remove the lamp shade and place the lamp at eye level on a dresser or shelf. Once the lamp is positioned safely, stand about 3 feet in front of the lamp. Then hold the Moon in front of you, so it's between you and the Sun.
5. To simulate the moon's orbit around the Earth, stay in one spot while you slowly turn your body in a circle counterclockwise (to the left). Keep your arm perfectly straight in front of you and the Moon at eye level. Pay attention to the shadows created on the Moon which mimic the phases of the moon we see here on Earth.
6. Rotate all the way around until you have completed a full lunar cycle and are facing the Sun again.

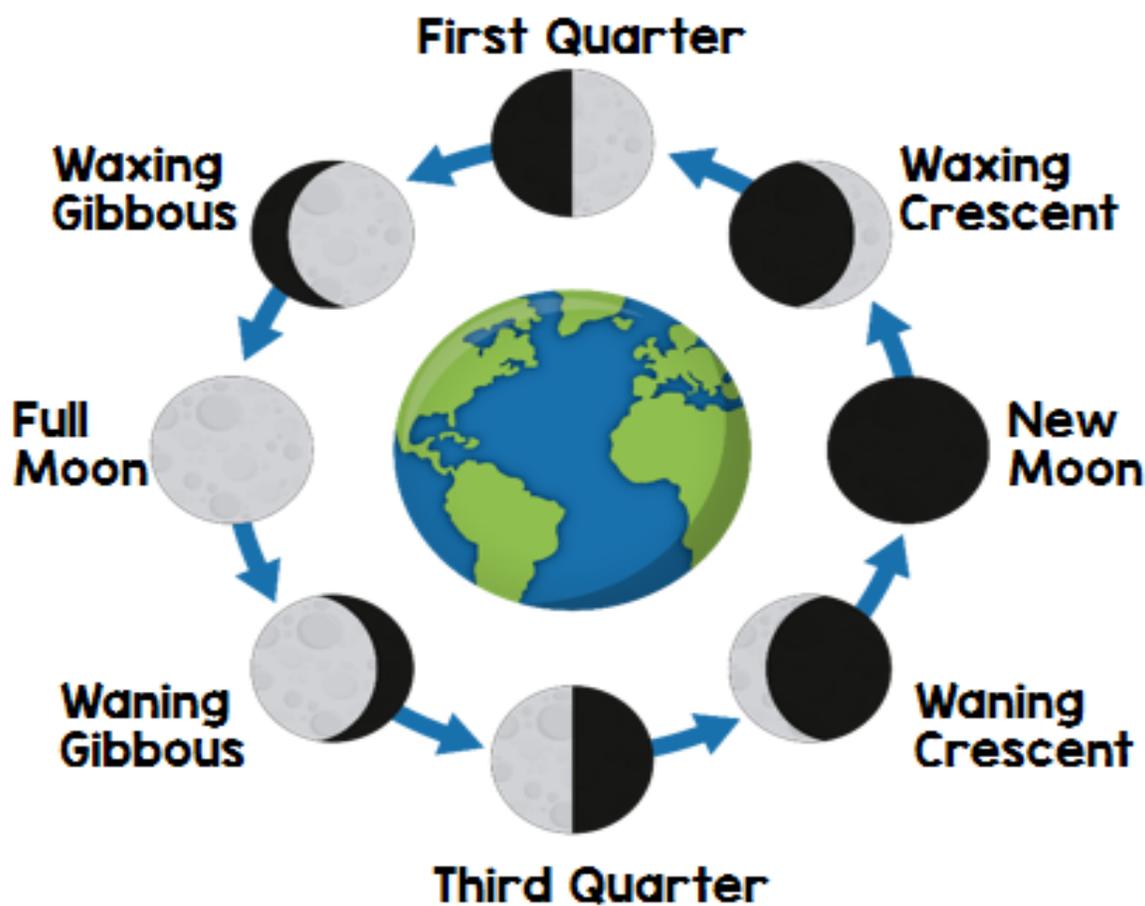
**Thank you**

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# Moon Phases

The moon travels around the earth. As the moon travels it goes through different phases. There are 8 different moon phases that reflect the amount of sunlight reflecting off the moon. It takes one month for the moon to go through all of its phases.



<b>Waxing</b>	The moon is appearing to get larger
<b>Waning</b>	The moon is appearing to get smaller.
<b>Crescent</b>	More shadow is showing than the moon.
<b>Gibbous</b>	More moon is showing than shadow.