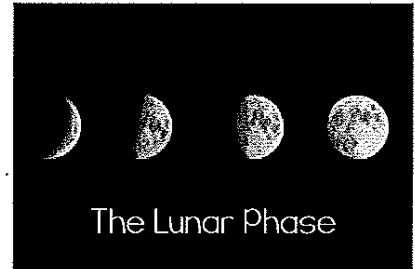


The Moon's Phases

A Every night the moon appears in the sky. It is always there but we can only see it in the dark. The moon always seems to be a different shape! This is called the lunar phase. The lunar phase is how much of the moon you can see.



B The part of the moon we can see is from the sun's light reflecting off of it. Because of gravity, the same side of the moon always faces the earth. As the moon moves around the earth, we can see more of the face of the moon.

C A moon phase lasts 29 days. It starts when you cannot see the moon in the sky. This is called the new moon. You cannot see the new moon because the sun is on the other side of it. The side that does not face the earth gets all the sunlight. We cannot see that side so the moon appears dark to us. After the new moon, comes the crescent moon. That is when just a small part of the moon is visible, and it looks like the mouth on a smiley face. Then comes the quarter moon, where half of the moon is light, and half of it is dark. When most of the moon is light, but some of it is dark, it is called the gibbous moon. Then, at last, comes the full moon, where all of it looks light to us.

D After the full moon, it starts getting smaller again. This is called waning. It goes through the gibbous, quarter, and crescent stages. At last, it reaches the new moon phase again, and it starts all over. In one lunar phase, the moon has traveled all the way around the earth!

E The moon has been very important through history. Native Americans used the moon phases as an instrument or tool to keep track of time. Some of the world's oldest calendars have used the moon phases. Explorers have used the moon to help them navigate, because it showed them what direction they were going.

F The moon is fascinating! Do you agree?

RI.3.H

1. Use the text to find and explain the meaning of the following words and phrases.
 Step 1: **Circle** the words in the text that are a clue to the meaning of the word
 Step 2: Explain the meaning in your own words.

Paragraph A <u>appears</u>	
Paragraph A <u>lunar phase</u>	
Paragraph C <u>new moon</u>	
Paragraph C <u>crescent moon</u>	
Paragraph C <u>gibbous moon</u>	
Paragraph D <u>waning</u>	
Paragraph E <u>instrument</u>	

RI.3.O

2. Write one WORD to summarize the following paragraphs:

C. _____ D. _____

3. Underline three important words in the text.
 4. Summarize what you know about the moon's phases.

Complete Sentences	Cite the Evidence	Restate the Question
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RI.3.1

5. Write three questions where the answer could be found in the text. Then find the answer to your question and color it.

1. _____

Color the answer to your question 

2. _____

Color the answer to your question 

3. _____

Color the answer to your question 

RI.3.2

6. Write one WORD that describes the main idea of the text: _____

7. What are three key details in the text that support the main idea?

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

8. Describe HOW one of these key details supports the main idea.

RI.3.8

9. Explain the SEQUENCE OF EVENTS described in Paragraphs D and E for the lunar phases.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____