



Climate Title: Get to Know the Night Sky

Description: Mother Moon's Many Phases

Goal: Talk about shapes associated with each phase of the moon, and how the pattern follows a cycle that gets bigger then smaller every month. Talk about the position of the Moon, Earth, and Sun in relation to one another and how that impacts how much of the moon we see every 29.5 days. Use natural objects to represent the Moon, Earth, and Sun (e.g., use rocks for the Sun and Earth and shape a leaf into the Moon's phases).

[Tip]: When the Moon's far side (that we cannot see from Earth) is lit up by the sun, we call it a New Moon. When the side of the Moon that always faces Earth is lit up by the sun, we call it a Full Moon.

Why? Understanding the different phases of the moon helps introduce children to the relationship between Earth and other objects in space, and to develop an appreciation for the beauty of our night sky.

References: Mnaathr, S.A., Basha, A.D., (2013). Descriptive study of 3D imagination to teach children in primary schools: Planets in outer space (Sun, Moon, Our Planet).

Computer Science and Information Technology 1 (2): 111-114. DOI: 10.13189/csit.2013.010206

Isik-Ercan, Z., Inan, H.Z., Nowak, J.A., Kim, B., (2014). 'We put on the glasses and Moon comes closer!' Urban Second Graders Exploring the Earth, the Sun and Moon Through 3D Technologies in a Science and Literacy Unit. *International Journal of Science Education 36 (1)*, 129-156. DOI: 10.1080/09500693.2012.739718