

The Moon for Special Ed



Special Needs for Special Kids



This unit was created with this guy in mind. He has autism and an intellectual disability. He is a non-reader, and loves the sound of piano keys. With some support he is able to do this unit, and enjoys the challenge. He is my tester!!

Worksheet pages	Title
4-25	The Moon (book)
26-28	Vocabulary board
29-35	Vocabulary cards
36-48	Vocabulary cut and paste
49-54	Circle map
55-59	Earth Vs Moon characteristics sorting
60-63	Why is there no life on the moon?
64-77	Phases of the Moon (book)
78-88	Large phases of the moon cards
89-94	Matching phases of the moon
95-98	Sequencing phases of the moon
99-120	Astronauts (book)
121-124	Astronaut writing prompt
125-134	Sudoku puzzle
135-136	Word Search
137-144	Close worksheets
145-162	Assessment
163-164	Terms of Use

This unit contains over 160 pages of material. I have included a detailed lesson plan to help you make the most of everything in this unit including how to add some group activities.

The Moon Lesson Plan

Preparation

- Print out a vocabulary board for each student to use throughout unit
 - Laminate or place in page protector
- Book
 - Print out, laminate, and bind
 - OR your students can listen to the pre-recorded version
- Vocabulary cards
 - Print out a set of cards onto cardstock and laminate
 - Make one set for each student and also one for the teacher to use in I Spy games
- Print the large phases of the moon cards and laminate.
 - I have 2 versions included. One with a black background and one with a white background that you will glue to black construction paper prior to laminating.

Preassessment (do day 1 before starting lesson)

- Choose the form of the assessment that best fits the learning level of your students
- Give the assessment to assess what your students may already know
- I cannot emphasize enough how important this step is. If you want to see growth, this preassessment is so important!!

Teaching Tips

1. *Color Coding:* this is a really easy way to add more structure to a matching activity. Outline or color in an empty box or sorting label. Outline or color in the corresponding picture symbols the same colors. Becomes a color matching task.
 - a. For more info, read more here:
<https://specialneedsforspecialkids.org/2015/09/05/using-color-coding-for-differentiation/>
 - b. I also have a blog post on differentiating one activity 3 ways:
<https://specialneedsforspecialkids.org/2018/10/22/differentiating-1-activity-3-ways-easily-and-effectively/>
2. *Make your own copies of the activities:* Every day I review the activity we did yesterday. For that reason:

The lesson plans contain:

Overall tips for teaching
students with significant
needs

Quick Look

Day	Activity	Day	Activity
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Book: The Moon • Vocab cards introduction • Circle map 	8	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Book: The Moon • Vocab cards cut and paste • Word Search
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Book: The Moon • Vocab cards activity • Sorting activity 	9	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Book: The Moon • Vocab cards activity • Close worksheet
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Book: The Moon • Vocab cards activity • Why no life collage 	10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Book: Phases of Moon • Vocab cards activity • Close worksheet
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Book: Phases of Moon • Vocab cards activity • Large phases cards • Matching activity 	11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Book: Astronauts • Vocab cards activity • Close worksheet
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Book: Phases of Moon • Vocab cards activity • Large phases cards • Sequencing activity 	12	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assessment
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Book: Astronauts • Vocab cards activity • Writing Prompt 		
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Book: The Moon • Vocab cards cut and paste • Sudoku puzzle 		

The lesson plans contain:

A quick look at what you will do each day

Day 5

Activity	Notes	Materials
Read or listen to a recording of the book: Phases of the moon (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Read through the story, asking lots of questions• Continue to make connections between book and vocabulary board	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Book• Vocabulary board
Vocabulary cards Speed Matching (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• place all the cards in the middle of the table• hold up a card, and the students race to find it in the pile in the middle of the table• NOTE: for students with physical challenges, allow them to simply find the symbol on their board or communication device	Vocabulary cards (extra sets)
Large Phases Cards (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pass the cards out to the students and have them arrange themselves in the correct order• You can also have them hold up the correct card as you read the book.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Large cards
Matching activity review (5 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Review the matching activity completed yesterday	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Activities from yesterday
Sequencing the phases of the moon activity (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Have students practice putting the phases of the moon in order• Add color-coding if needed for students who need more support.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• worksheet• Scissors• glue
Sharing (10 minutes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Each student shares their finished worksheet	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Completed activity• Communication devices

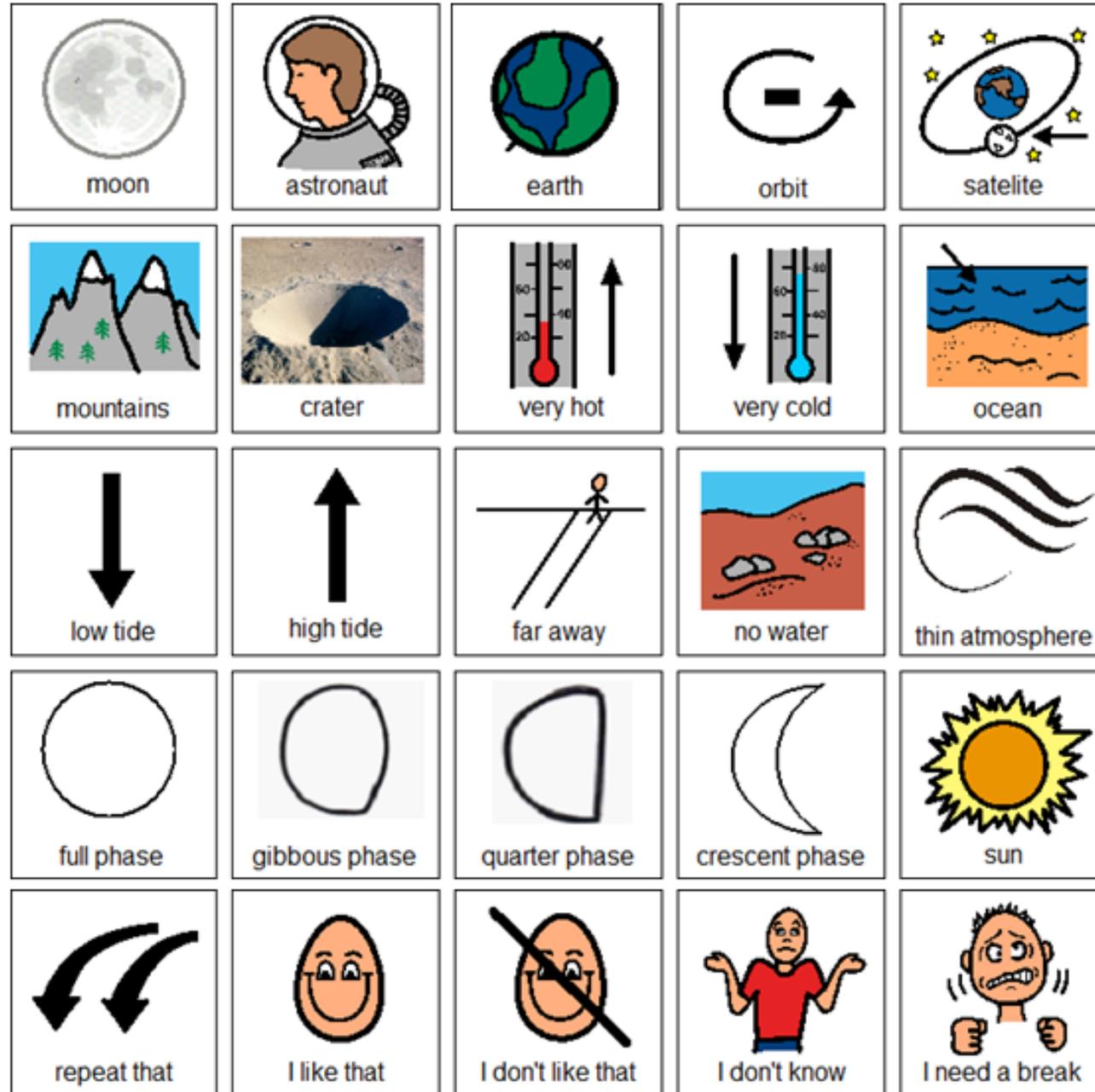
The lesson plans contain:

Detailed instructions on how that day's lesson should run

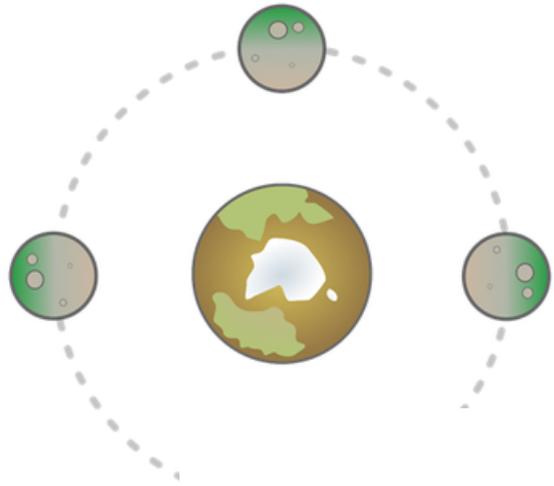
This unit comes with a vocabulary board.

Vocabulary boards are great for ALL students to assist with participation and engagement in group discussions.

Tips on how to use in the unit!!

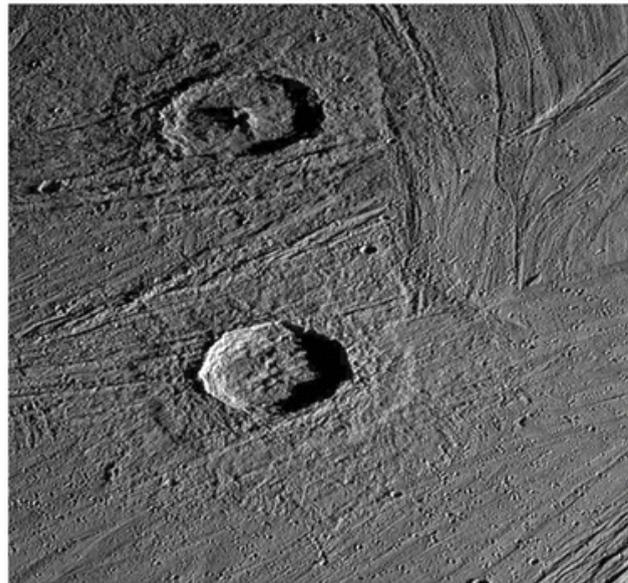


A natural satellite is an object that travels around a planet.



There is also very little water on the moon.
Water is essential to life on any planet.

Chri



ChristaJoy, Special Needs for Special Kids

There are 3 books in this unit. This one is a 22-page book about the moon.

It comes in pdf version as well as a voice recorded PowerPoint (so you don't have to print it out.)

We are going to look at 4 different phases of the moon.



The **gibbous phase** of the moon is what we see most of the moon, but it is not totally round like a full moon.



This book is specifically about the phases of the moon. It is 12 pages.

It comes in pdf version as well as a voice recorded PowerPoint (so you don't have to print it out.)

An astronaut is a specially trained person who travels through space.



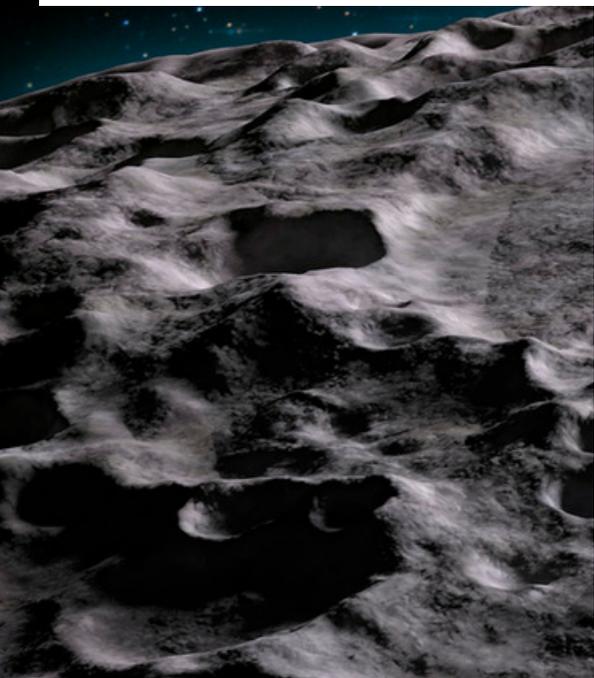
When traveling into outer space astronauts travel in very special vehicles called spaceships or rockets



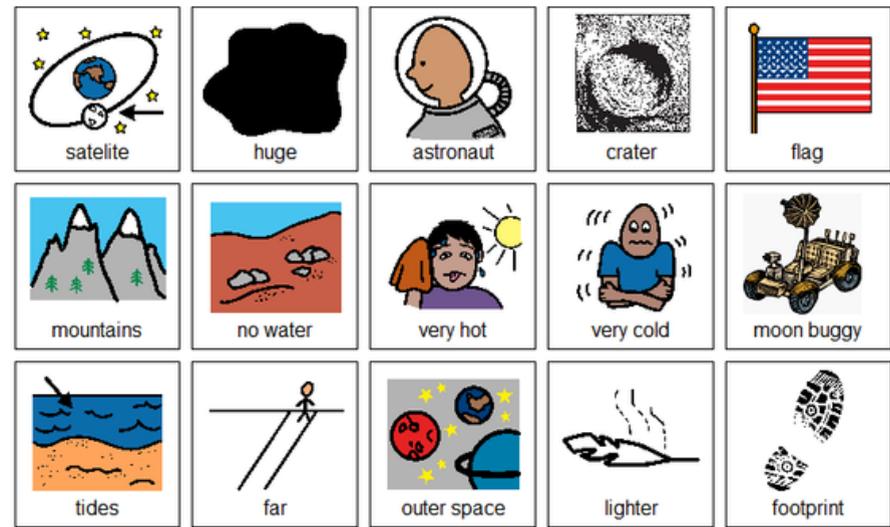
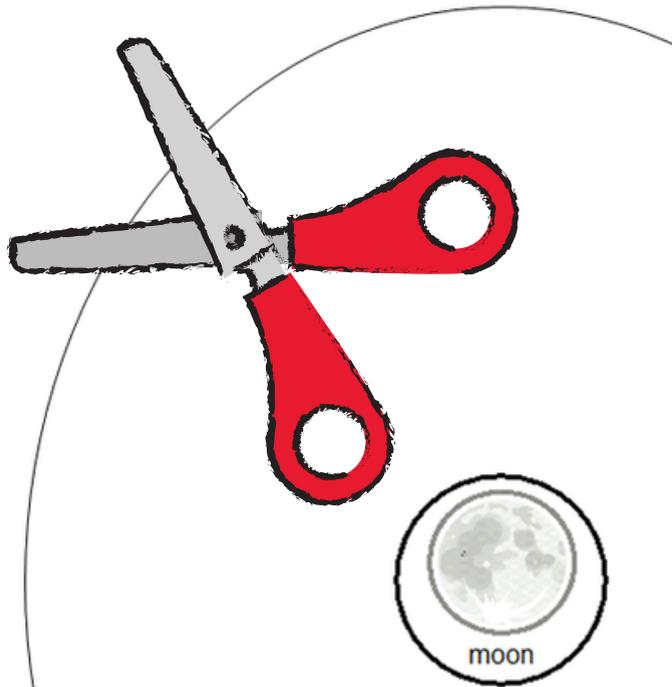
Christa Joy, Special Needs for Special Kids

This book 22-page book is all about astronauts.

It comes in pdf version as well as a voice recorded PowerPoint (so you don't have to print it out.)



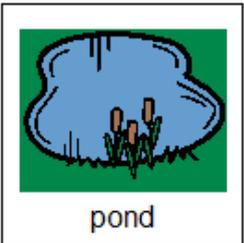
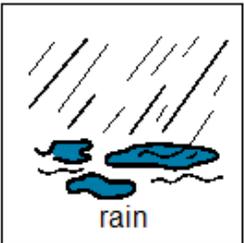
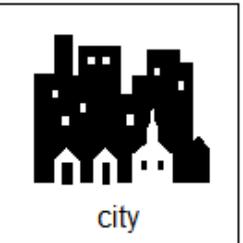
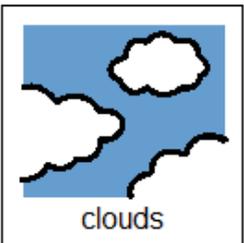
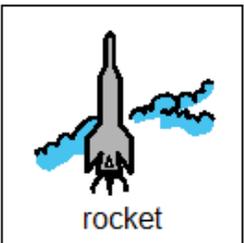
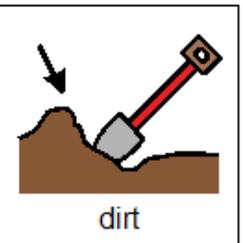
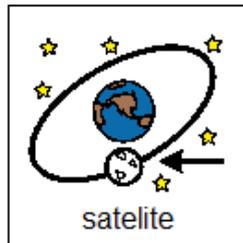
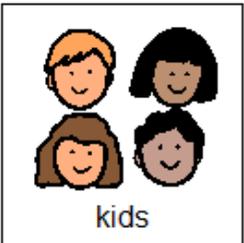
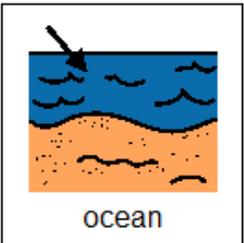
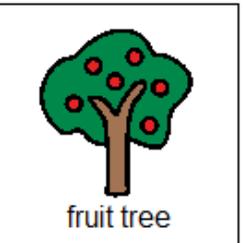
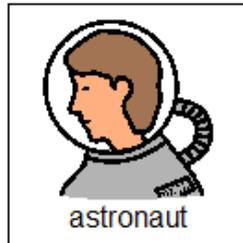
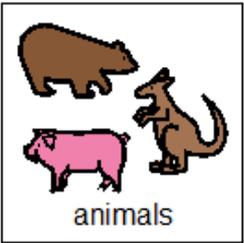
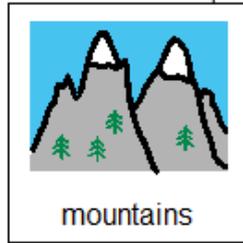
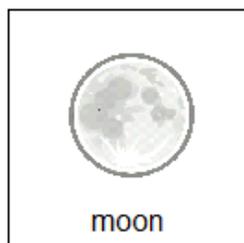
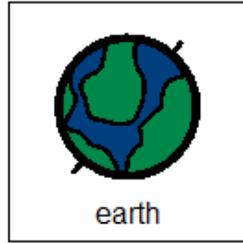
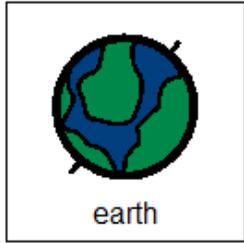
What are some things you might find on the moon?



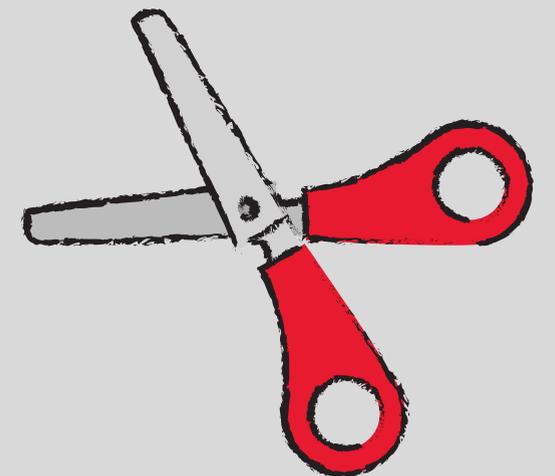
There is a circle map on the general features of the moon.

Circle maps are a great way for students to see the concept at a glance. There are 2 versions:

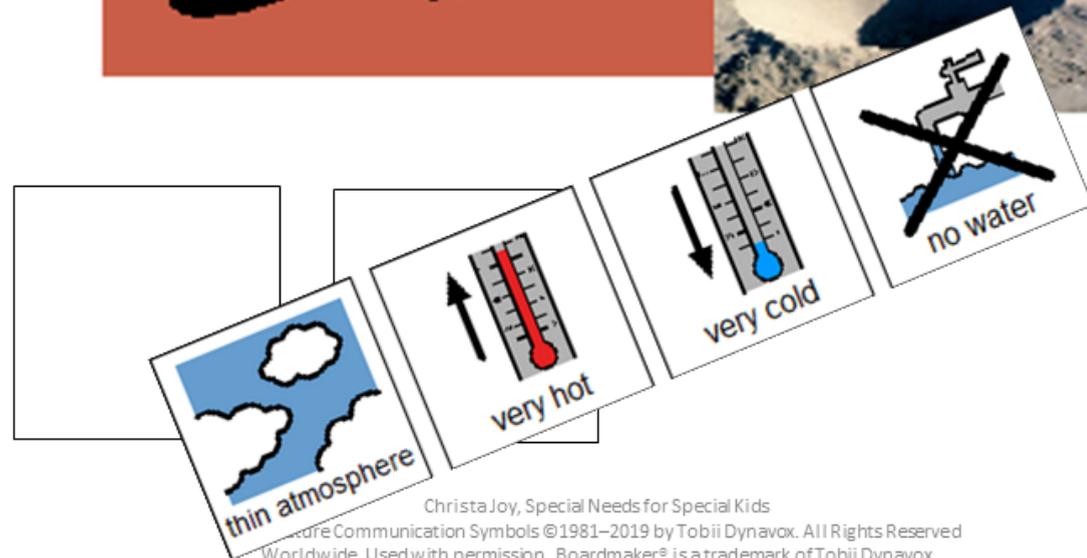
- One is errorless
- One has wrong answers mixed in students will have to set aside



There is a sorting activity comparing the Earth and the moon. There is a color-coded option included.

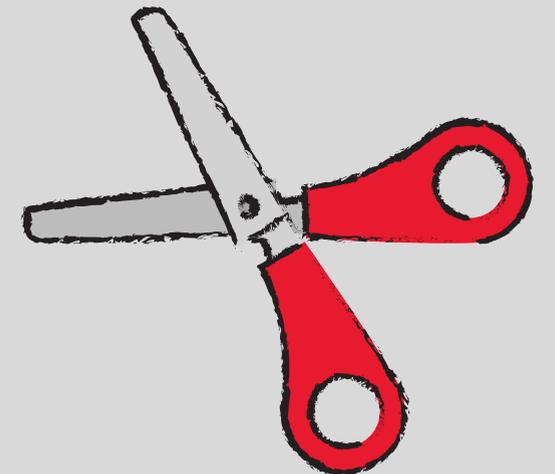


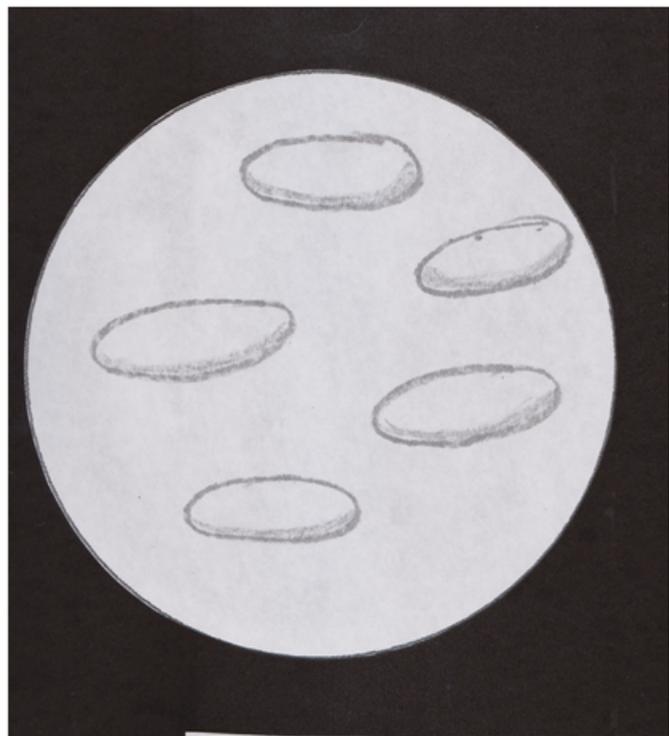
We know there is no life on the moon. There are no animals, no plants and no people. Why?



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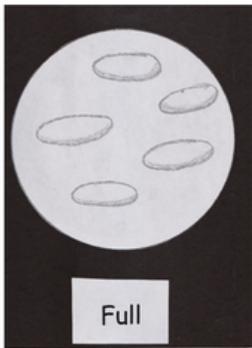
There is a collage showing why there is no evidence of life on the moon.





Full

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Full



Gibbous



Gibbous

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Quarter



Crescent

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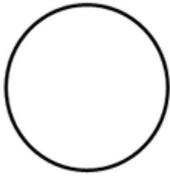
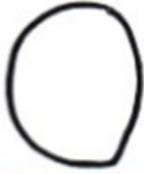
There are 2 sets of large cards depicting the phases of the moon. One set has a dark background and one set has a white background that you will have to cut out and mount on black construction paper.

Phases of the Moon

Full	
Gibbous	
Quarter	
Crescent	

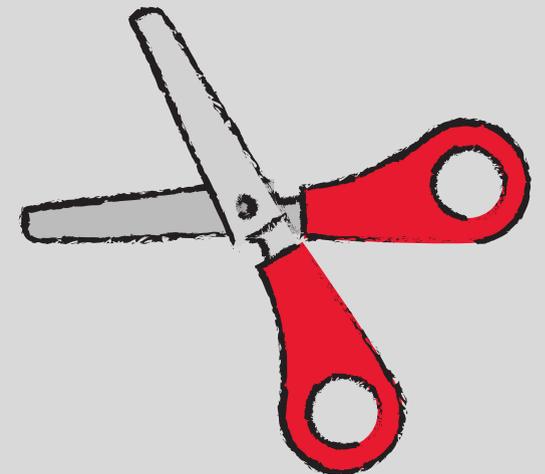
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Match with the phases on the previous page.

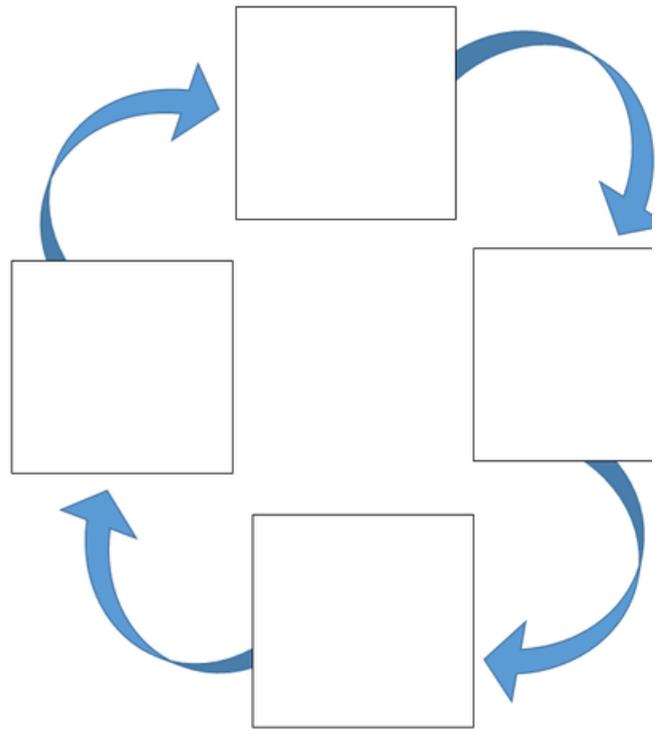
	
	
	
	

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There are matching activities for the 4 phases of the moon covered in this unit.

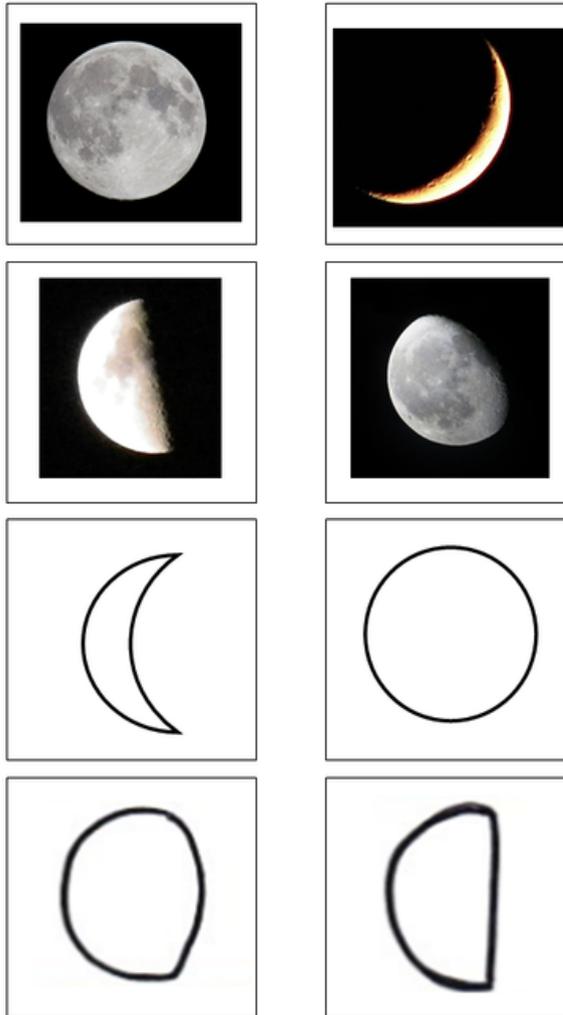


Phases of the Moon



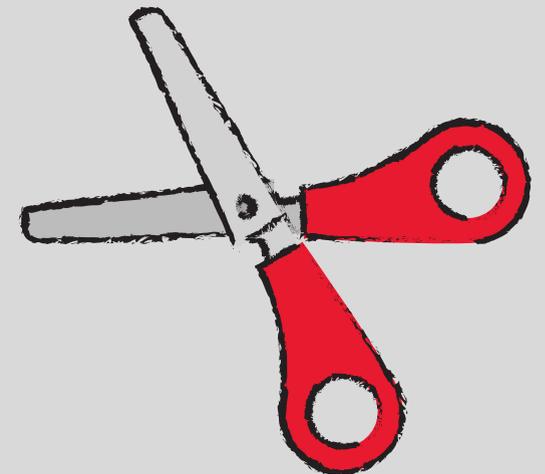
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Sequence on the previous page.



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There is also a sequencing activity. Both have the option of using real photos or illustrations of each phase.



I think it would be cool to be an

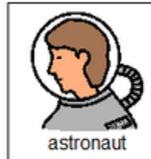
I would travel into

on a

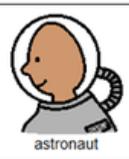
I think I would like to travel to

The coolest things about space travel would be

One thing I would take with me would be:



astronaut



astronaut



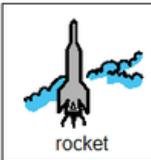
astronaut



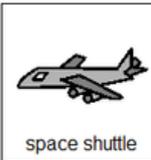
astronaut



outer space



rocket



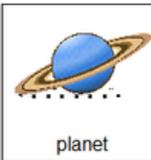
space shuttle



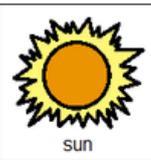
moon



stars



planet



sun



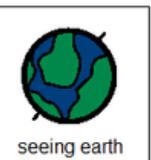
wearing a space suit



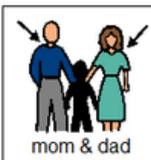
no gravity



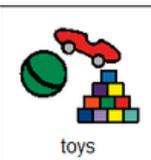
traveling in a rocket



seeing earth



mom & dad



toys



ice cream

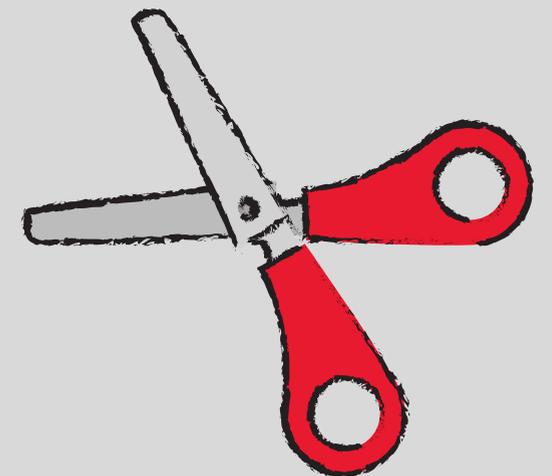


video game



book

There is a writing prompt about going into space that goes with the book on astronauts. This is an errorless activity.



orbit

Circular path the moon takes around the Earth.



natural satellite

Something that goes around a planet and is not man-made.



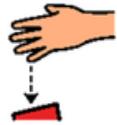
crater

Hole left on the surface of the moon caused by something falling from space.



gravity

The pull of the moon on causes high and low tide:



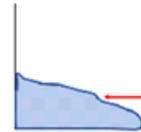
high tide

When the moon is closest to the Earth and pulls the water away from the Earth's surface.



low tide

When the moon is farthest from the Earth and has the least amount of pull of the water.



astronaut

A scientist, man or woman, who studies and often travels into outer space.

atmosphere

Layer of air that surrounds a planet and helps block harmful things and good things.



gibbous phase

Phase of the moon that is not quite full, but still fairly round.



quarter phase

Phase of the moon when you see exactly half. It is one quarter of the way around the Earth.



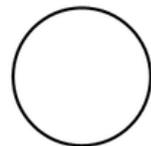
crescent phase

When you can only see a small sliver of the moon.

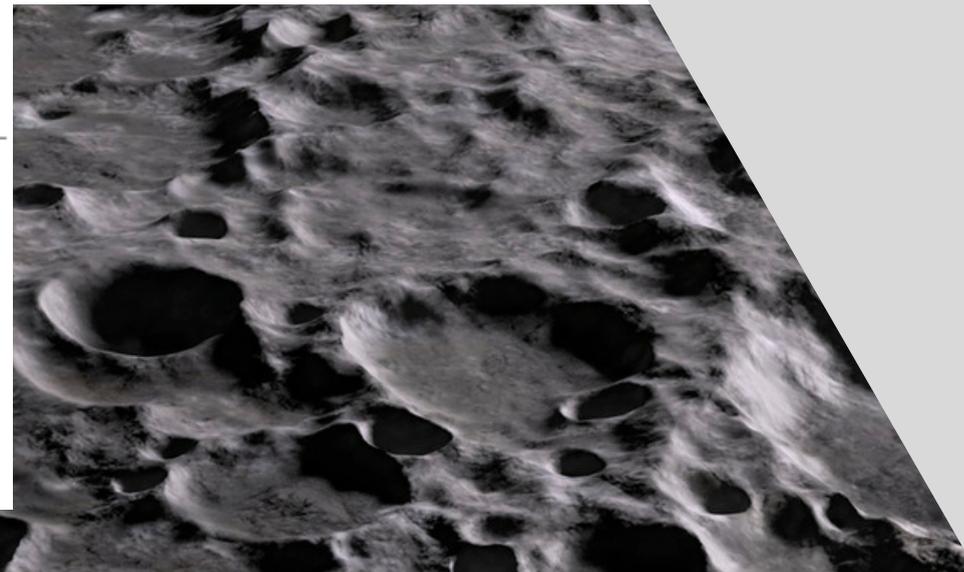


full moon

Moon looks perfectly round. It occurs when the Earth, the sun and the moon are all in a line.



There are 12 vocabulary cards included in this unit. There are group activities to do with the cards each day.



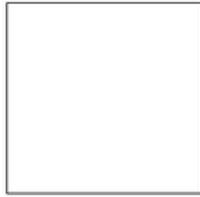
orbit

Circular path the moon takes around the Earth.



natural satellite

Something that goes around a planet and is not man-made.



crater

Hole left on the surface of the moon caused by something falling from space.

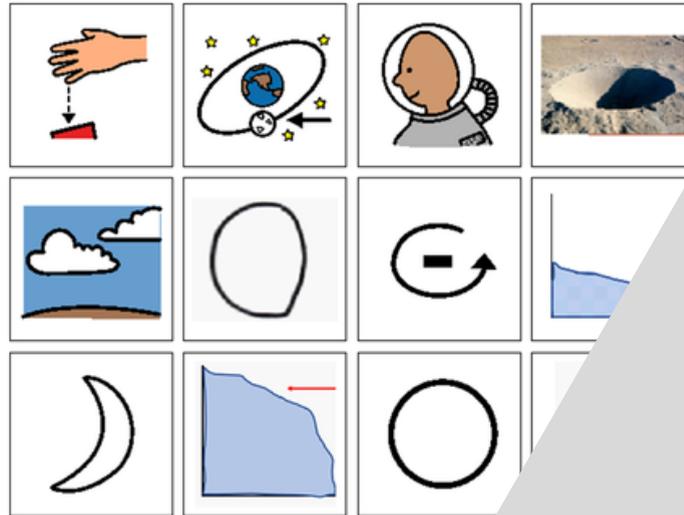


gravity

The pull of the moon on the Earth that causes high and low tides in the ocean.



Match the pictures with the definitions on the previous pages.



high tide



low tide



astronaut

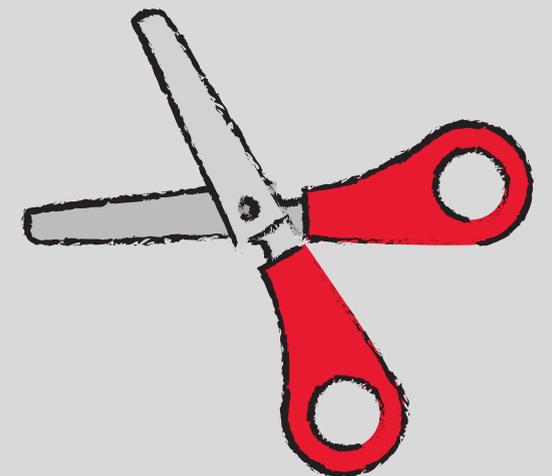


atmosphere



Moon looks perfectly round. It occurs when the Earth, the sun and the moon are all in a line.	When the moon is...
Something that goes around a planet and is not man-made.	Phase of the moon...
Layer of air that surrounds a planet and helps block harmful things and hold in good things.	The...
Phase of the moon when you see exactly half. It is one quarter of the way around the Earth.	Cir...
When the moon is farthest from the Earth and has the least amount of pull of the water.	When...
Hole left on the surface of the moon caused by something falling from space.	A...

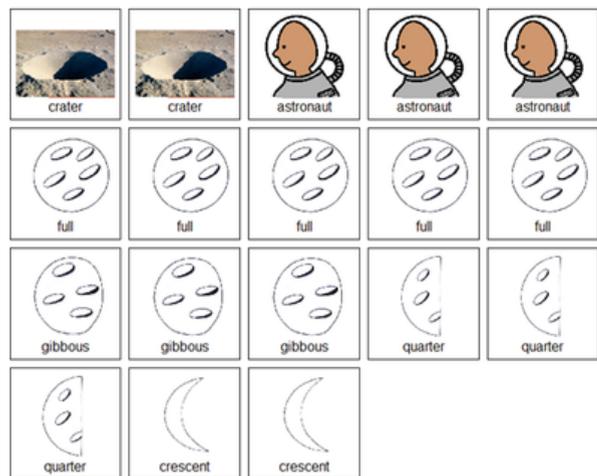
On days 7&8 there is an activity where students will match either the picture to the definition or the definition to the picture (harder).



The Moon

 gibbous	 crescent	 full	 quarter		
 quarter	 astronaut	 crater	 gibbous		 crescent
 crater			 crescent		
		 quarter			 astronaut
	 quarter			 crater	

Place the following images in the empty squares on the previous page, completing the sudoku puzzle.

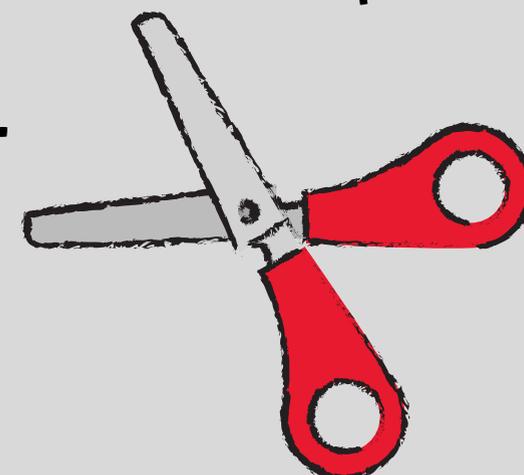


The Moon

 crescent	 quarter	 gibbous	
 gibbous		 crescent	
 full	 crescent	 quarter	
 quarter	 gibbous		

There is a Sudoku puzzle in this unit as well. This is a great way to work with the new vocabulary!!

There are 2 versions plus answer keys.



The Moon

F G F A T M O S P H E R E W F
M T Z G Q D Z D F I M B T P J
N I A O K R L W G R A V I T Y
E D U V A W C B G B E O S Y Z
X E U K K P A B H B M V A I K
P M P N G I B B O U S U T S X
H I S O X D F I C A L Q E M V
A X Q U A R T E R S K Q L X H
S V Z X R K S O E T J E L J Y
E O K F A C E R S R X O I R V
M M T U K R C B C O S O T F Z
I H T L M A A I E N R L E N A
L Z U L F T O T N A J B L K K
M A I R S E F T T U K H S U R
S D N B F R P E P T V O L F H

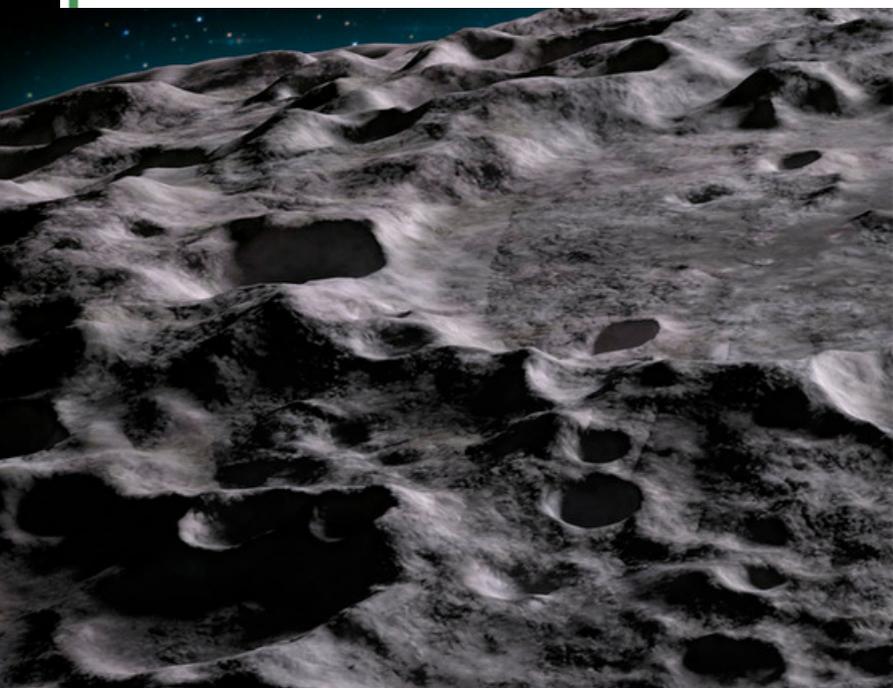
- | | | | |
|------------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| atmosphere | satellite | astronaut | gravity |
| gibbous | quarter | crater | orbit |
| phase | crescent | tide | full |

The Moon

F G F A T M O S P H E R E W F
M T Z G Q D Z D F I M B T P J
N I A O K R L W G R A V I T Y
E D U V A W C B G B E O S Y Z
X E U K K P A B H B M V A I K
P M P N G I B B O U S U T S X
H I S O X D F I C A L Q E M V
A X Q U A R T E R S K Q L X H
S V Z X R K S O E T J E L J Y
E O K F A C E R S R X O I R V
M M T U K R C B C O S O T F Z
I H T L M A A I E N R L E N A
L Z U L F T O T N A J B L K K
M A I R S E F T T U K H S U R
S D N B F R P E P T V O L F H

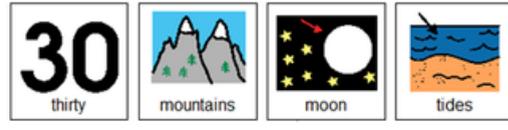
- | | | | |
|------------|-----------|-----------|---------|
| atmosphere | satellite | astronaut | gravity |
| gibbous | quarter | crater | orbit |
| phase | crescent | tide | full |

There is also a word search to work with vocabulary. If your students cannot do a word search, have them highlight the circle words on the answer key.



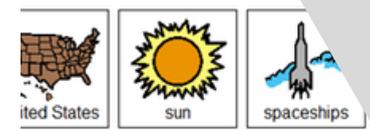
The Moon

1. The is a natural satellite that travels around the Earth.
2. It takes about days for the moon to go around the Earth once.
3. There are and on the moon's surface.
4. The moon's gravity affects the on Earth.
5. Our moon is the largest moon.



Astronauts

1. Astronauts travel in to the moon.
2. They wear a special suit to protect them from the .
3. The first man on the moon was from .

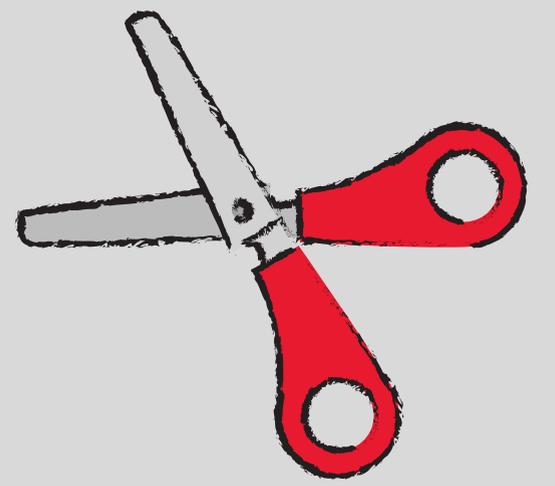


Phases of the moon

1. The positions of the and the Earth determine the phase of the moon.
2. The quarter moon really looks like a moon.
3. When there is a tiny sliver, it is called the moon.
4. The moon that is not quite full is called the moon.
5. We see a moon when the Earth and sun are in a line.



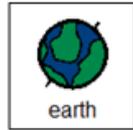
There are 4 fill in the blank worksheets. These are great for review prior to the assessment to determine if any re-teaching is needed.



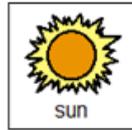
1. What is the name of the object you can often see in the night sky?



moon



earth

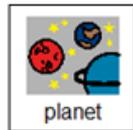


sun

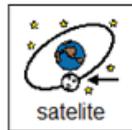
2. What is the moon?



star

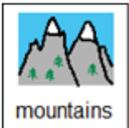


planet

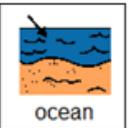


satellite

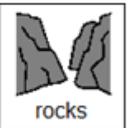
3. Circle the things you might find on the moon?



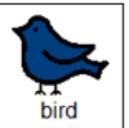
mountains



ocean



rocks



bird

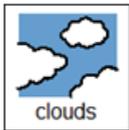


dirt

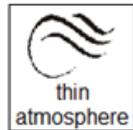


crater

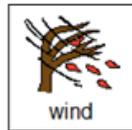
4. Why does it get so hot and so cold on the moon?



clouds



thin atmosphere

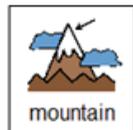


wind

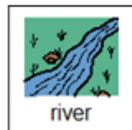
5. What are the large holes on the surface of the moon called?



crater



mountain



river

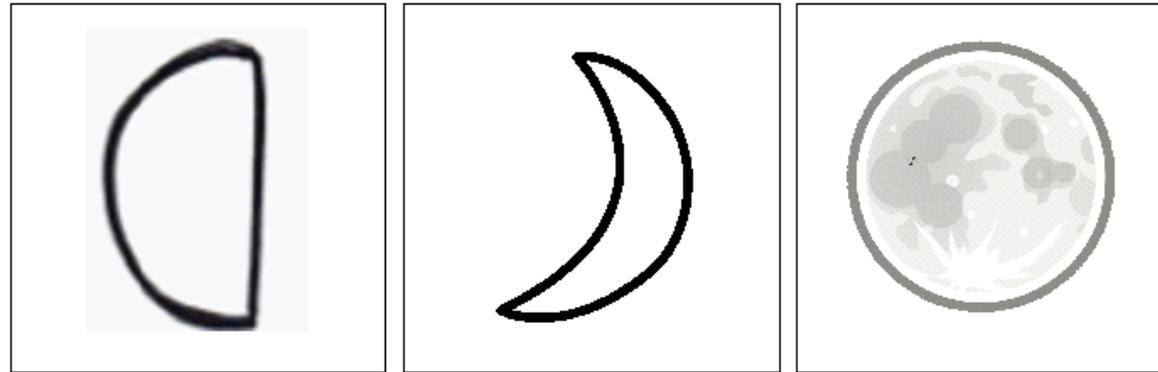
There is a 10 question final assessment.

There are 3 versions. This version has 10 questions with 3 picture choices for each question.

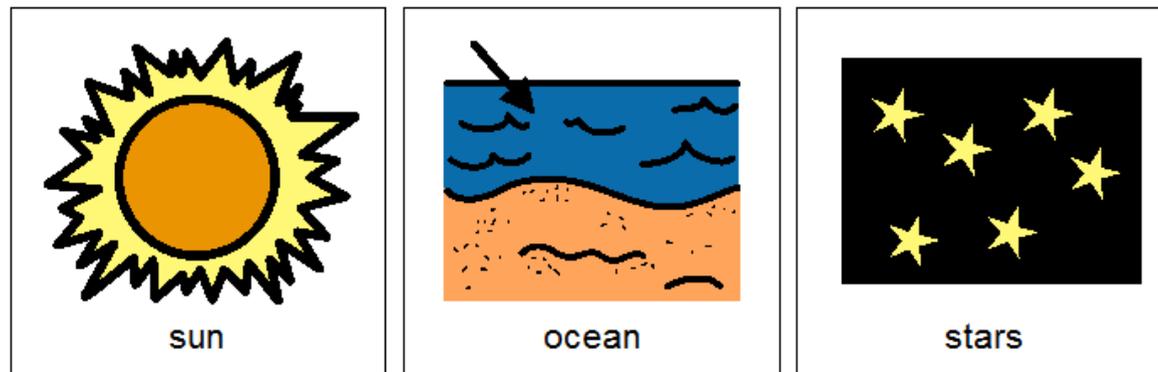
Answer key included.

Print onto cardstock or mount on index cards. Cut pictures apart and show student answer choices for each question.

Q 9



Q 10



With this version, you cut out the answer choices and glue them on index cards. Ask the student the question, and they point to the correct answer.

1. What is the name of the object you can often see in the night sky?
 - A. Moon
 - B. Earth
 - C. Sun
2. What is the moon?
 - A. A star
 - B. A planet
 - C. A satellite
3. Circle the things you might find on the moon?
 - A. Mountains
 - B. Ocean
 - C. Rocks
 - D. Birds
 - E. Dirt
 - F. Craters
4. Why does it get so hot and so cold on the moon?
 - A. Clouds
 - B. Thin atmosphere
 - C. Windy
5. What are the large holes on the surface of the moon called?
 - A. Craters
 - B. Mountains
 - C. River
6. The moon's pull on the earth affects what large body of water?
 - A. Ocean
 - B. Lake
 - C. Pool

This is your traditional multiple choice version. It can also be used as a recording sheet if your students are using the version with index cards.



I realize there will be some students out there unable to do cutting activities. I have a blog post with ways to complete activities without a pair of scissors!!

Most of the activities (except the book) come in color and black and white.

[Click Here to read more!!](#)