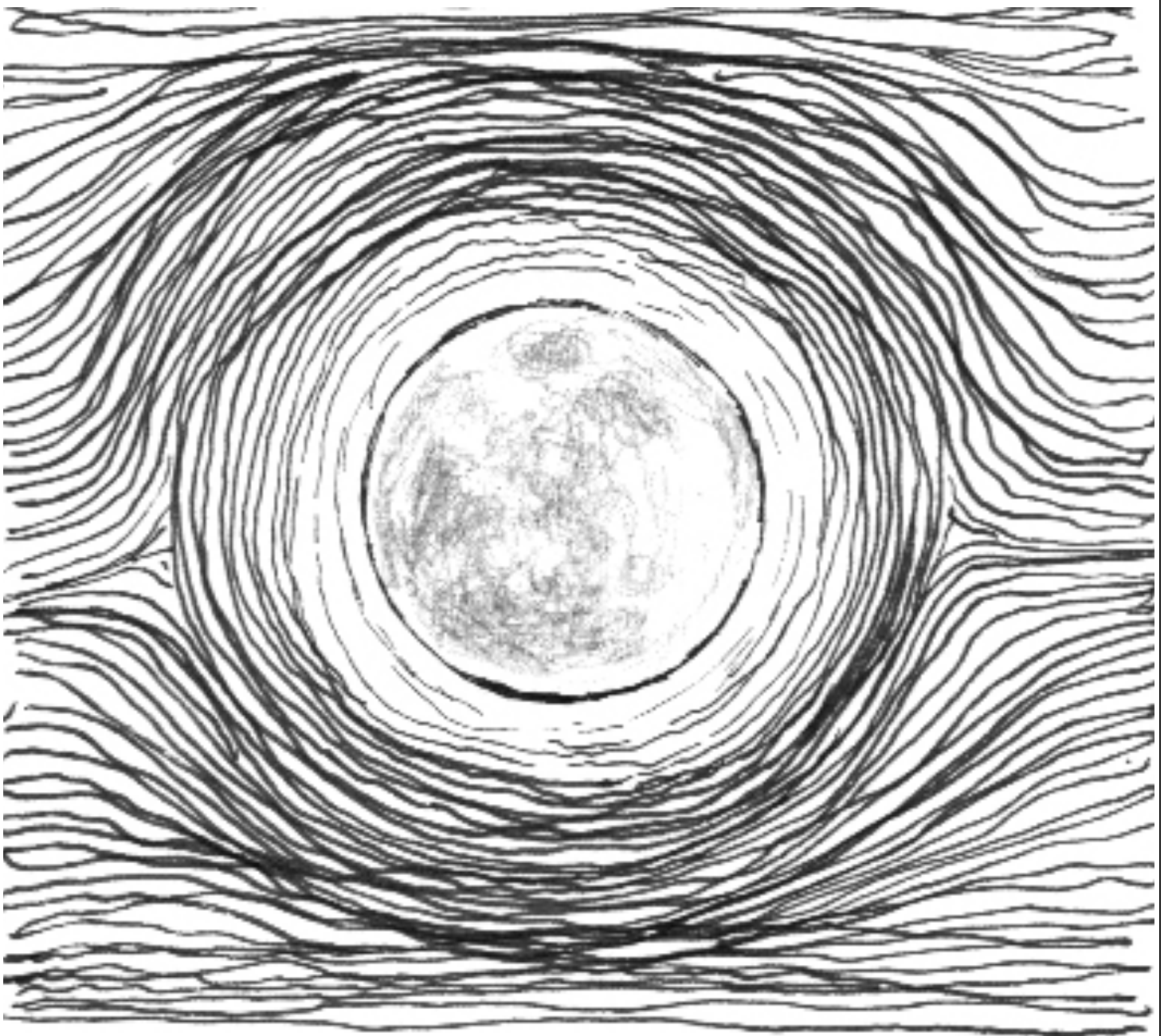


# The Moon

written and illustrated by A. Minnery

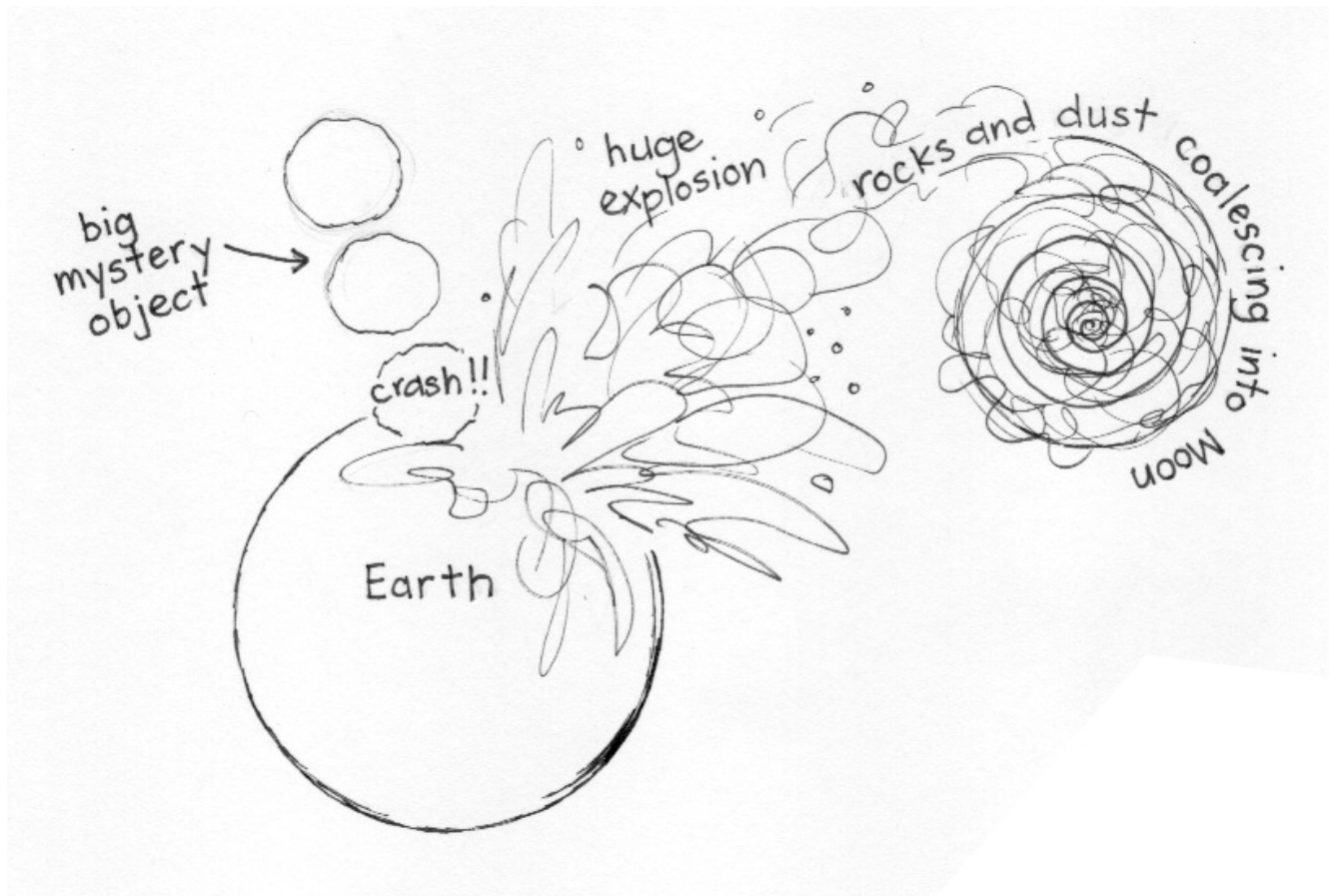


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# How The Moon Was Formed

Scientists have different ideas about how the Moon was formed. Many scientists think evidence shows that a collision between the Earth and another object formed the Moon, four billion years ago.



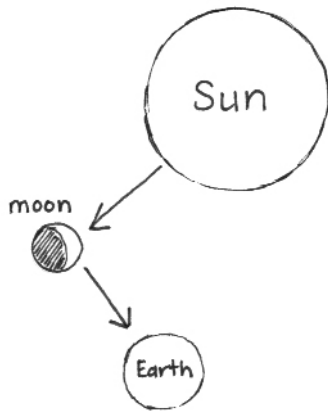
Other scientists think that the Earth and Moon formed separately, around the same time, from swirling clouds of rocks and dust in space. Some scientists even think that the Earth "stole" the moon from Venus!

No one really knows for sure.

# Facts and Fictions

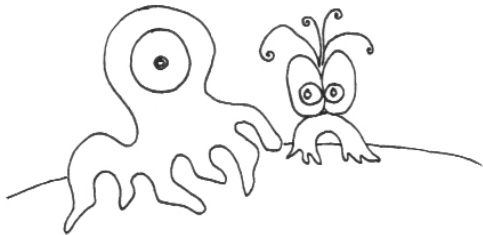
**Fiction:** The Moon is made of cheese.

**Fact:** Yum! But no. The Moon is made of rock.



**Fiction:** The Moon produces light.

**Fact:** The Moon reflects light from the Sun.



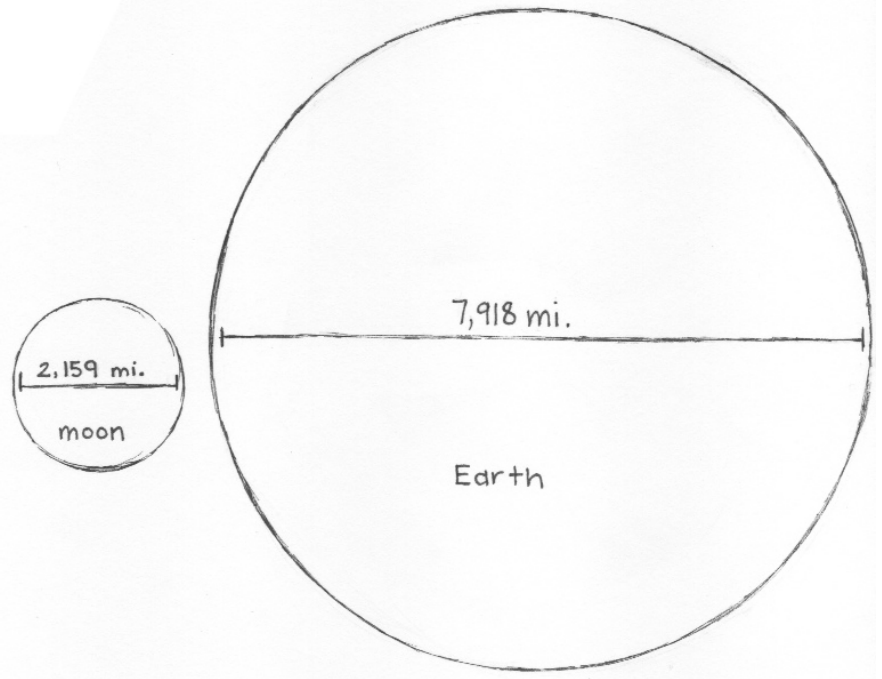
**Fiction:** Aliens live on the Moon.

**Fact:** Only in our imaginations!

**Fiction:** One side of the Moon is always dark.

**Fact:** Each side of the Moon gets the same amount of sunlight!

**Size:** The Moon's *diameter* is about  $\frac{1}{4}$  the length of the Earth's *diameter*.



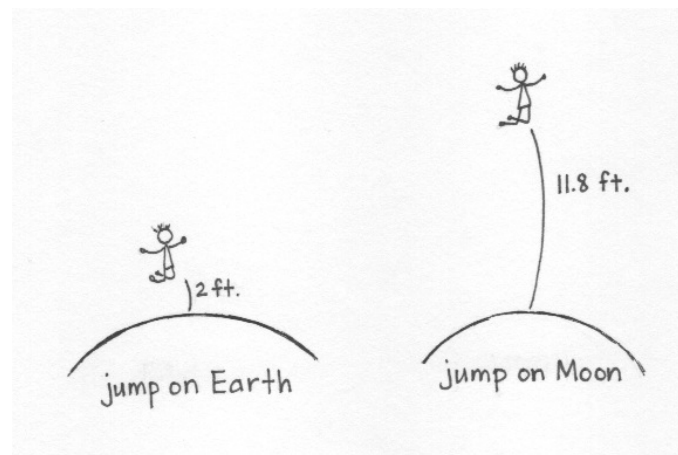
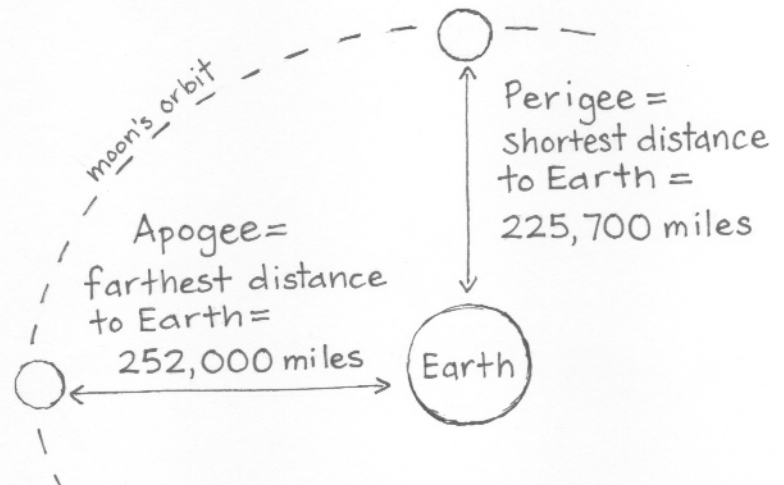
**Surface:** rocks and dust, marked by craters

**Atmosphere:** none

**Temperature:**  $-280^{\circ}$  F at night, up to  $260^{\circ}$  F in the day

**Distance from Earth:**

Changes, depending on orbit



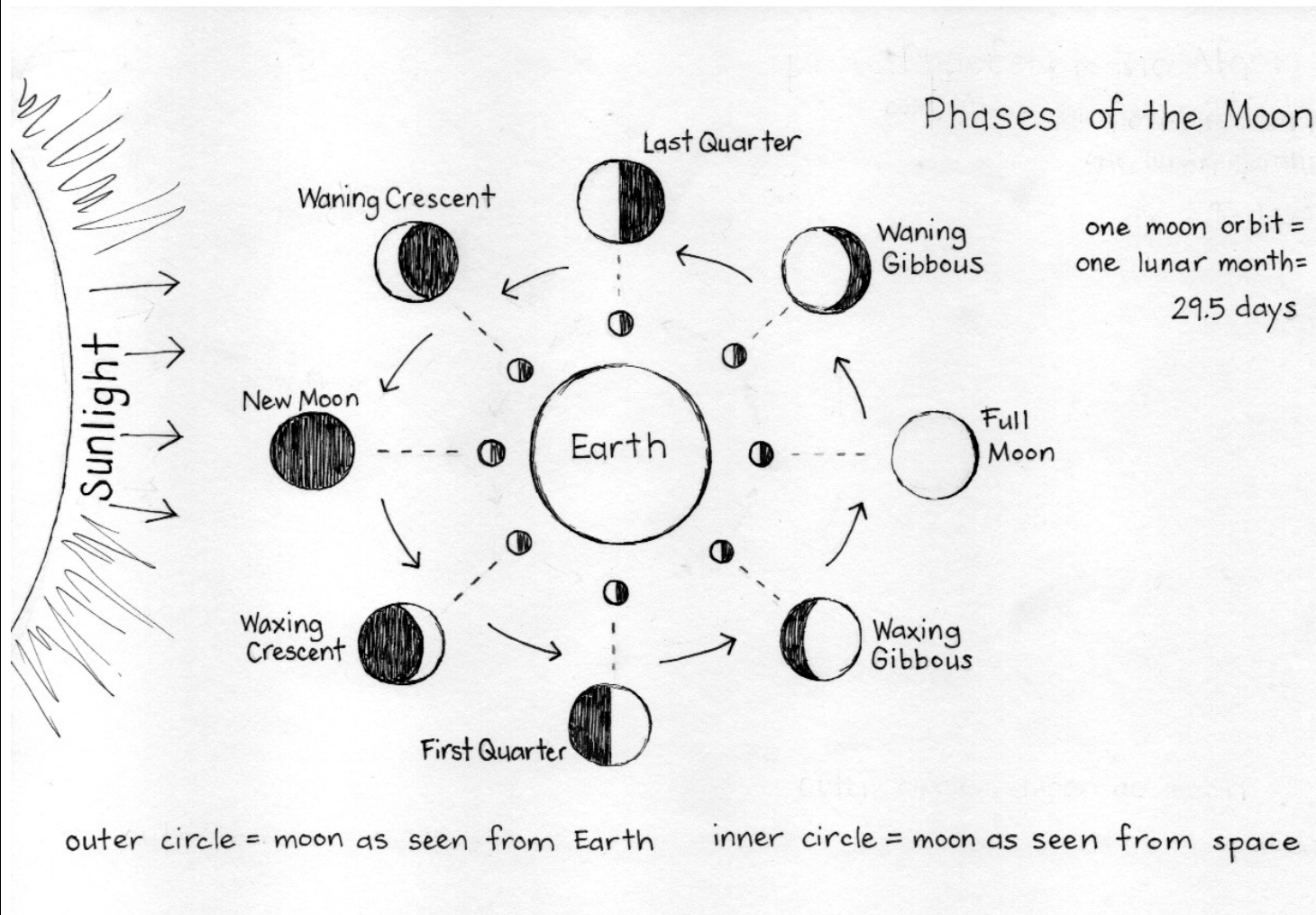
**Gravity:** Only seventeen percent of Earth's. You can jump A LOT higher on the Moon!

# The Moon and Earth

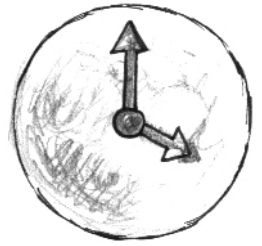
## Phases of the Moon

From Earth, the Moon seems to change shape, but it actually doesn't! The Sun always shines on  $\frac{1}{2}$ , one half, of the moon. The amount, of the lit half that we can see, changes as the moon orbits our Earth.

The lunar month is divided into eight phases.



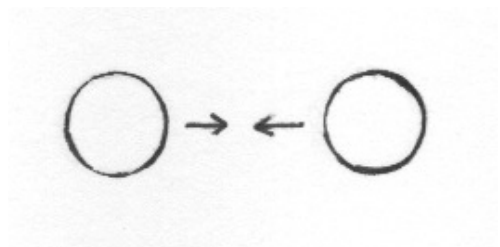
## Timekeeper



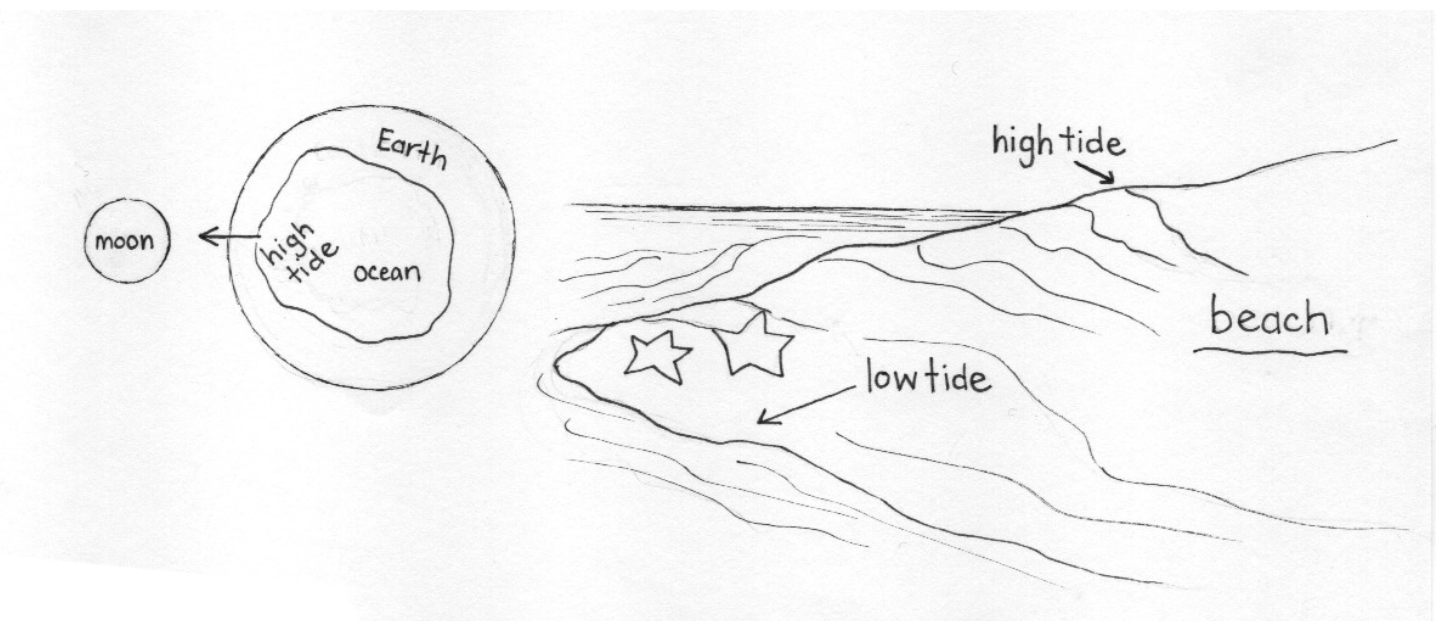
We see each face of the moon once every 29.5 days. This is a lunar month. People have used this regular cycle to count and record time since the beginning of human history. The word *month* comes from the word *moon*!

# GRAVITY

Gravity is the pull between all things. Larger things have more gravity than small ones. The Earth's gravity keeps the Moon orbiting around it.



The Moon exerts gravity on the Earth too. The Moon, along with the Sun, pulls large bodies of water towards it, as the Earth spins on its axis. The oceans bulge on one side at high tide.



# Myths and Legends

People have been watching and wondering about the moon since the beginning of human existence.

- Have you ever heard of the Man in the Moon? In German cultures, the moon is called “Mister Moon”.
- Anningan is the name of the moon god for some Inuit people. He chases his sister, the sun goddess, across the sky.
- Several cultures, including ancient Chinese and Mayan people, saw a rabbit hiding in the face of the moon.
- For the Ibibo people of Nigeria, the moon and sun were husband and wife who leapt into the sky to escape a flood.
- Many cultures, including the Algonquin people of North America, have names for each full moon in a year. The full moon in October is often called the Harvest Moon.
- To the ancient Greeks, the moon was a goddess named Selene. Her name is the source of the word *lunar*.



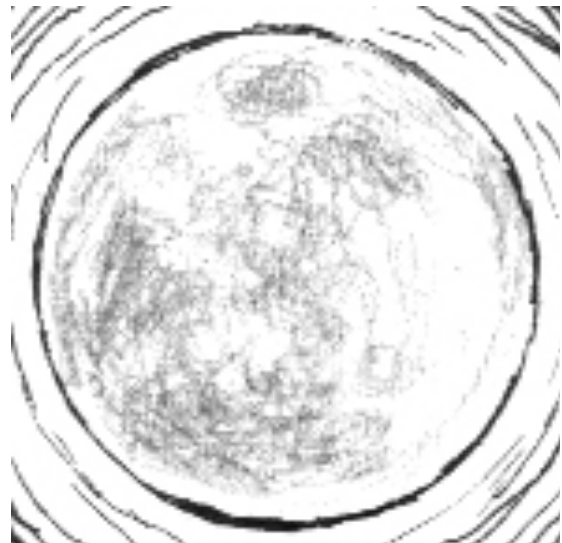
# Poetry

Hey diddle diddle,  
The cat and the fiddle,  
The cow jumped over the moon;  
The little dog laughed to see such sport,  
And the dish ran away with the spoon.

English Nursery Rhyme

The moon was but a chin of gold  
A night or two ago,  
And now she turns her perfect face  
Upon the world below.

Emily Dickenson, excerpt from "The Moon"

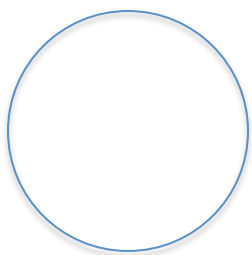
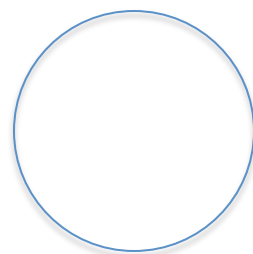
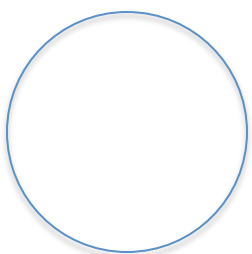
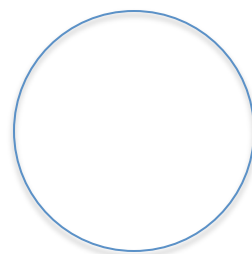
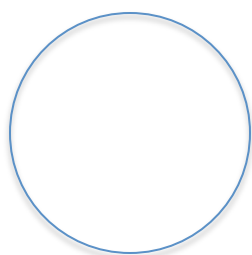
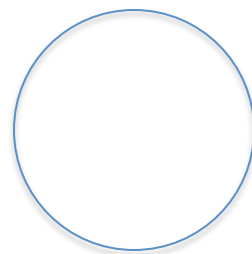
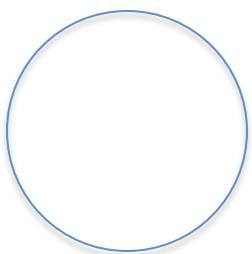
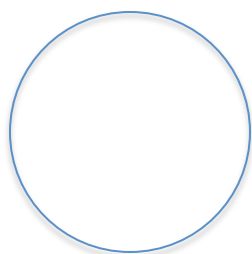


# Vocabulary

write or draw to explain

ancient	axis	collision	coalesce	crescent
diameter	evidence	gibbous	gravity	half
legend	lunar		orbit	phase
produce	quarter	tide	waning	waxing

Draw and label the eight phases of the moon:



# Words to Watch: Moon

## High Frequency Words:

full, eight, laugh, pull, ran, show

**Spelling Patterns:** We are studying words that are spelled with the soft c and soft g.

Soft C and G					
ce	ci	cy	ge	gi	gy
space	circle	cycle	change	imagination	
produce	scientist		large		
surface	ancient		bulge		
distance			legend		
percent			huge		
crescent					
face					
source					
evidence					
existence					

## Moon Words:

crescent, diameter, gibbous, gravity, lunar, phase, waning, waxing

## Interesting Words:

ancient, collision, coalesce, diameter, evidence, mass, produce, tide

## Fraction Words:

quarter, half