Science and technology · Grade 4

Phases of the Moon

Connect phases to the lit portion we see from Earth.

Name _____ Date _____

Read or look closely

The Moon does not make its own visible light. We see sunlight it reflects. The visible lit portion changes as the Moon orbits Earth.

Your turn

1. Where does the Moon's visible light come from?

2. What is the phase called when the part of the Moon we see looks fully lit?

3. Reread the model. As the Moon moves around Earth, do we always see the same amount of its lit side? Explain.

4. Sketch a full moon and a crescent.

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Read or look closely

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Your turn

5. What could you record each evening to follow a cycle of phases?