



Our Moon's Cycle Lessons

Websites

General

[The Planetary Society](http://www.planetary.org/)

Offers extensive up-to-date information and pictures of the most current happenings in astronomy.

(<http://www.planetary.org/>)

[Astronomy Picture of the Day](http://apod.nasa.gov/apod/astropix.html)

Each day a different picture from space is shown with an information sheet to go along with it.

(<http://apod.nasa.gov/apod/astropix.html>)

[StarChild](http://starchild.gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/StarChild/StarChild.html)

This child-friendly NASA site offers an enormous amount of information about astronomy for children to explore independently.

(<http://starchild.gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/StarChild/StarChild.html>)

[Science, Optics & You](http://micro.magnet.fsu.edu/primer/java/scienceopticsu/powersof10/)

View the Milky Way at 10 million light years from the Earth. Then move through space towards the Earth in successive orders of magnitude until you reach the subatomic universe of electrons and protons.

(<http://micro.magnet.fsu.edu/primer/java/scienceopticsu/powersof10/>)

Moon's Cycle

[Current Moonrise, Moonset and Moon Phase Data](http://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/moonrise.html)

This user friendly site lists moonrise, moonset, and moon phase data for a specific location. The times are adjusted for local and daylight saving time. Included on this site are both domestic and international data.

(<http://www.timeanddate.com/worldclock/moonrise.html>)

[NASA/NSSDC Photo Gallery- Moon](http://nssdc.gsfc.nasa.gov/photo_gallery/photogallery-moon.html)

Follow this link to a gallery of NASA photographs of the moon's surface. Click on the thumbnail image you like most to get a full-screen view of it.

(http://nssdc.gsfc.nasa.gov/photo_gallery/photogallery-moon.html)



[The Old Farmer's Almanac](#)

View an illustrated calendar of the moon's phases for the month and year that you choose. The calendar will show what your class's moon phase observations should look like.

(<http://www.almanac.com/astronomy>)

[The Moon](#)

Offers potpourri of information about the moon and missions to the moon.

(<http://www.solarviews.com/eng/moon.htm>)

[USNO-Astronomical Applications Department- Moon Data](#)

Phases of the moon and moon illumination data for any place and year.

(<http://www.usno.navy.mil/USNO/astronomical-applications>)



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Books

Our Moon's Cycle

This list includes books and videos about the moon and about the Apollo space missions.

Books

Many Moons

By James Thurber; illustrated by Marc Simont. (1998, Sandpiper)

This Caldecott Medal winner tells the tale of a princess who wanted the moon, and how she got it.

Midnight on the Moon (Magic Tree House Series #8)

By Mary Pope Osborne; illustrated by Sal Murdocca. (1996, Random House)

In this book, illustrated in black-and-white, the characters are whisked forty years forward in time and land at an international space station on the moon. There they don space suits and go exploring the lunar surface. Independent readers will find it easy to read.

The Moon (Eye on the Universe)

By Niki Walker and Bobbie Kalman. (1998, Crabtree Pub.)

Beautiful, full-color photographs help illuminate the lunar cycle, the moon's surface, and its exploration by astronauts, as well as the effects it has on Earth. Each two-page spread highlights an interesting fact about the moon.

The Moon and You

By E. C. Krupp; illustrated by Robin Rector Krupp. (2000, HarperCollins Juvenile Books)

Set in a picture-book format, the straightforward, conversational text begins by briefly explaining the history, geography, orbit, phases, eclipses, gravity, and exploration of the moon. The second half of the book concerns various cultures' moon legends and beliefs throughout history. Appropriate for grades 3-6, and a worthwhile supplement to traditional books on the moon.



Moonwalk: The First Trip to the Moon (Step into Reading, Step 5)

By Judy Donnelly; illustrated by Dennis Davidson. (1989, Random House)

The story of Apollo 11's historic flight, from lift-off, through the famous line, "The Eagle has landed," to splashdown and quarantine. Includes chapters on the history of the idea of flight to the moon, astronaut selection and training, and the flight's effects on people in general.

What the Moon Is Like (Let's-Read-and-Find-Out Science, 2)

By Franklyn Mansfield Branley; illustrated by True Kelley. (2000, Collins)

Incorporates NASA photos and information gathered by the Apollo space missions, along with a description of how the moon's composition, terrain, and atmosphere differ from Earth's.

Spacebusters: The Race to the Moon (Level 3, Reading Alone)

By Philip Wilkinson. (1998, DK Publishing)

This story of Apollo 11's trip to the moon starts with lift-off and finishes with splashdown and quarantine, with a short epilogue about the US space program in subsequent years. It conveys some of the suspense and drama of the event, including what the experience was like for the three astronauts.

DVDs

Bill Nye the Science Guy: Outer Space

Directed by Michael Gross III and Mitchell Kriegman (2003, Disney Educational Productions)

The first half of the video is an episode about objects in space, including the size and scale of objects in the solar system. The second half focuses on the moon. In the first few minutes of the moon episode, Bill Nye models the causes of the moon's cycle by walking a model moon around the bases of a baseball field, with Earth on home plate.

Space Science for Children: All About the Moon

Produced and directed by JWM Productions, LLC (2006, Schlessinger Media)

A short segment in the middle of this video shows a child modeling the moon's cycle using a ball as the moon, a light as the sun, and the child's head as Earth.