

Moon Motion

Procedure

1. Use a ball with a stick handle to stand for the Moon. Use a lamp or other light to stand for the Sun. You will be an observer on Earth. **Safety:** Do not touch the bulb. It will get hot.
2. **Use Models** Stand in front of the Sun model with your back to it. Hold the Moon model at arm's length in front of you and above your head.
3. **Observe** Slowly make a quarter turn in place and stop, keeping the Moon model in front of you. Look at the shape the light makes on the Moon model.
4. **Record Data** In the space below, draw the pattern of light and dark that you observed on the Moon model in steps 2 and 3.



5. **Use Models** Repeat step 3 two more times. Face a different direction each time. In the space below, draw in the space below the pattern of light and dark that you observe.



Conclusion

Write the answers to the questions below.

1. **Communicate** Look at your sketches. Are the shapes of light the same or different in each picture? Discuss why.

2. **Infer** If you look at the Moon on several different nights, do you think the Moon will look the same each time? Explain.

Investigate More!

Research Look in books or on the Internet for folklore about the changing shape of the Moon. Find out what the Inuit people of Greenland believed about Anningan, their Moon god.