

Name: _____ Date: _____ Period: _____

Moon Journal Project

For the next month, you will be making nightly observations of the moon and recording what you see. You will be turning in your journal for a project grade at the end of next month, which will be:

Step One: Design a Moon Journal

- Design a cover for your journal. Be as creative as possible. Remember to include your name and class.
- Include enough pages to record your knowledge of the moon, observations, and conclusions. You will need to make 28 days of observations, so you need at least 17 pages if you use front & back for each observation.
- Be neat. Put effort into your work. This journal represents you.

Step Two: Knowledge of the Moon

In your journal, write down and answer the following questions in complete sentences:

- What two motions does the moon have? How long does the moon take to complete both of these motions?
- How long does it take the moon to complete an entire phase change?
- Draw a diagram that accurately shows the eight phases of the moon. Include the sun, earth, and a description of each phase.
- Include a page of moon facts. You should have a minimum of ten facts that you learned from class, NASA.gov or the textbook. At the bottom of page, cite your sources.

Step Three: Record your Observations

Each night you should record the following information in your journal:

- Sketch what you see. Be as detailed as possible.
- Exact Date and Time (Try to observe the moon at the same time each night.)
- Weather Conditions (Is it cloudy? Rainy? Clear?)
- Note where in the sky it is
- Appearance of the moon (Is it a crescent? Waxing or waning? Do you see the craters or maria?)

If you have trouble finding the moon, look in a newspaper to see when the moon will rise and what phase it will be in. Alternatively, you could look at the following website:

http://outdoornebraska.ne.gov/hunting/guides/sunrise_sunset_calculator.asp

Step Four

Write a page reflection at the end of your journal. Include the following ideas:

- Express your feelings as you viewed the moon every night
- Describe what you learned
- Explain why the moon has phases
- Describe what you observed about surface features on the moon
- Tell me any new questions you have about the moon or astronomy in general.

Rubric:

Criteria	Points Possible	Points Earned
Cover page is complete with name and class. Cover is neat and creative.	5	
Questions on motion of moon are answered correctly	5	
Diagram of moon phases is complete and accurate on its own separate page	10	
Page of ten moon facts is complete and accurate	10	
Sources are cited for moon facts	2	
At least 28 days of observations we made with all the requirements listed in Step 3 on previous page	55	
Reflection is thoughtful and complete	10	
Overall project is neat and easy to read.	2	
Rubric is included with journal for grading	1	
TOTAL POINTS	100	