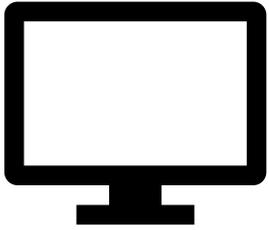


PHASES OF THE MOON



DIGITAL



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PHASES OF THE MOON

The Moon is the Earth's largest satellite. A satellite is a celestial body that orbits a planet! It is the fifth-largest natural satellite in the Solar System. As the Moon travels around the Earth it forms an ellipse, not a perfect circle. The Moon is about a quarter the size of the Earth. Due to gravity, something on the Moon will be six times lighter than on the Earth. The nightly temperature on the Moon is -280 degrees Fahrenheit. The Moon doesn't give off light. The 'moonlight' we see at night is actually the Sun's light reflecting off of the Moon.

The Sun lights up different parts of the Moon. As the Moon circles the Earth, we can only see a portion of the lit up side. If there was no Sun, then we would not be able to see the Moon. As the Moon orbits the Earth, the phases of the Moon change. The shape of the Moon that is visible from Earth is called a phase.

Each phase of the Moon is lit up by the Sun in different ways. This means they have a different appearance from the Earth. The same half of the Moon always faces Earth, so the Moon phases always occur over the same part of the Moon's surface.

The main phases of the Moon include new moon, waxing crescent, first quarter, waxing gibbous, full moon, waning gibbous, third quarter, and waning crescent. The phases of the Moon repeat themselves about every 29.5 days. The time it takes the Moon to make a complete cycle of phases is called a lunar month. A lunar month goes from one New Moon to the next New Moon. A lunar month (29.53 days) is shorter than a standard calendar month (30/31 days).

A New Moon occurs when we cannot see any part of the moon lit up. This is also referred to as a dark moon. During a New Moon, the Moon is between the Sun and the Earth. The Sun is shining on the opposite side of the Moon. The side facing toward us is dark. A New Moon cannot be seen from Earth.

Three or four nights after a New Moon will be a Waxing Crescent. Some will see the Moon from Earth as a thin sliver of light called the Crescent Moon. The crescent increases or "waxes" in size each day. Waxing is when the New Moon begins its orbit and we begin to see more of the Moon.

What shape does the Moon form as it orbits Earth? *

- Ellipse
- Heart
- Triangle
- Square

What phase is after a New Moon? *

- Full Moon
- Waning Crescent
- Waxing Crescent
- None of the above

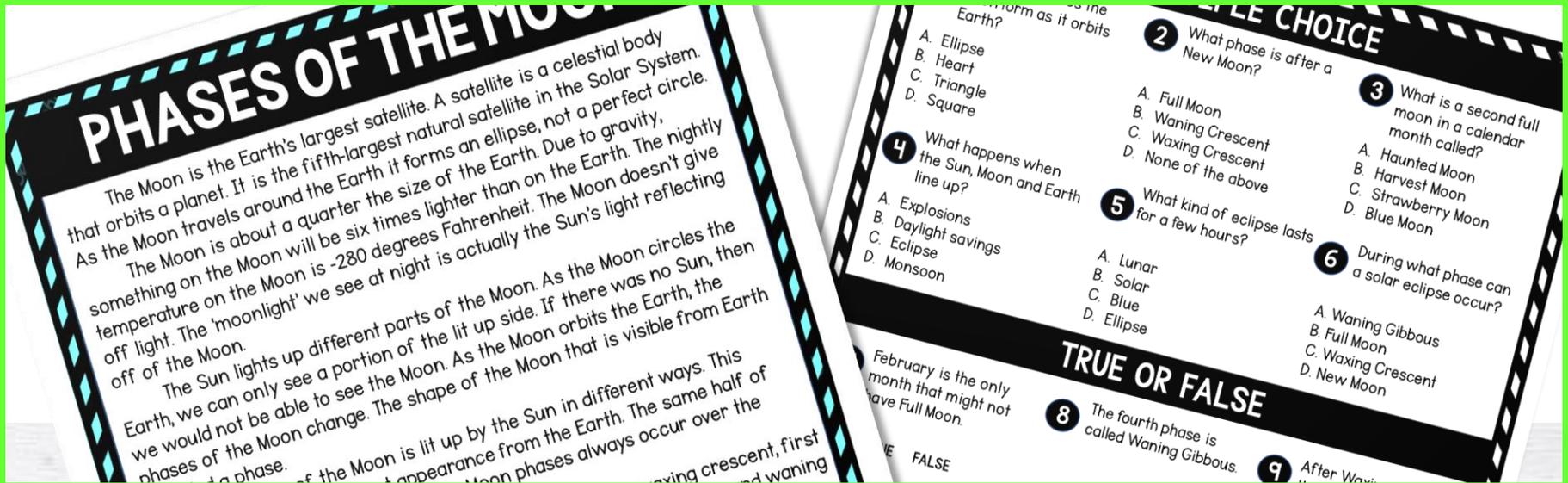
What is a second full moon in a calendar month called? *

- Haunted Moon
- Harvest Moon
- Strawberry Moon
- Blue Moon



READING PASSAGE

15 QUESTIONS



DIGITAL OR PRINT



INCLUDED

- ✓ READING PASSAGE
- ✓ TEACHER DIRECTIONS
 - ✓ ANSWER KEY
 - ✓ 15 QUESTIONS
 - ✓ SELF-GRADING
- ✓ PRINTABLE VERSION
- ✓ DIGITAL VERSION



QUESTION TYPES

-  **MULTIPLE CHOICE (6)**
-  **TRUE OR FALSE (9)**
-  **EDITABLE QUESTIONS
(FOR DIGITAL VERSION)**

True

False



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(IF USING THE DIGITAL FORMAT)

✓ GOOGLE™ ACCOUNTS

✓ KNOW HOW TO ZOOM IN AND ZOOM OUT TO
ENLARGE OR SHRINK THE SCREEN

True

False



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