The Moon

Do you ever look at the Moon at night? Do you wonder what it would be like to visit the moon? Read on to find out more...

Moon and Sun

The Moon shines very brightly, but it does not make its own light. It reflects the light of the Sun. When the Sun comes up for our daytime, it appears that the Moon goes away, but it doesn't. It's just harder to see because the sky is so bright. Sometimes, if you look carefully, you can see the Moon in the sky during the day.

Orbit

The Moon is the only thing that naturally goes around (orbits) the Earth – anything that does this is called a satellite. It takes the Moon about 28 days to go around the Earth once, we call this a lunar month.

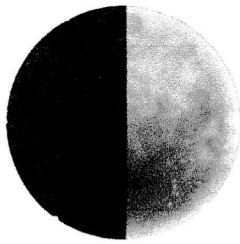
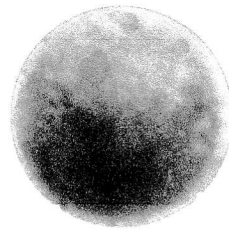
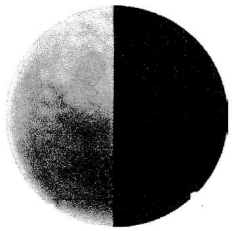
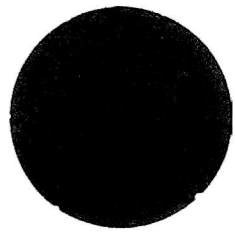
The phases of the Moon depend on its position in relation to the Sun and Earth. As the Moon makes its way around the Earth, we see the bright parts of the Moon's surface at different angles. These are called the 'phases' of the Moon.

Did You Know...?

We only ever see the same side of the Moon. This is called the 'near side'.

Moon Phases

The phases of the Moon depend on its position in relation to the Sun and Earth. As the Moon makes its way around the Earth, we see the bright parts of the Moon's surface at different angles. These are called the 'phases' of the Moon. Some of these phases include:

	
First Quarter	**Full Moon**
	
Last Quarter	**New Moon**

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