

Sample Moon Journal

The teacher instructed the students to color in blue crayon the background of each box and the portion of the moon not visible. Thus, the remaining white portion of the circle represents the moon. On days when no moon is visible or when the student does not observe the moon, the entire box is left blank—thus not confusing it with a full moon.

Find the Moon in the sky. Record the date and time. Shade the circle to show what the Moon looks like in the sky.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Date _____ Time _____	Date 9-20 Time 3:00	Date 9-21 Time 4:42	Date 9-22 Time 5:00	Date 9-23 Time 5:00	Date 9-24 Time 3:00	Date 9-25 Time 5:00
Date 9-26 Time 4:00	Date 9-27 Time 5:30	Date No Time Moon	Date No Time Moon	Date 9-30 Time 7:00	Date 10-1 Time 7:00	Date _____ Time _____
Date No Time Noon	Date Oct 4th Time 9:40	Date Oct 5th Time 9:00	Date Oct 6th Time 9:05	Date Oct 7th Time 2:40	Date Oct 8th Time No moon	Date 10-9 Time _____
Date 10-10 Time _____	Date 10-11 Time _____	Date 10-12 Time _____	Date 10-13 Time _____	Date 10-14 Time _____	Date 10-15 Time _____	Date 10-16 Time _____

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Date 10-17 Time _____	Date 10-18 Time _____	Date 10-19 Time _____	Date 10-20 Time _____	Date _____ Time _____	Date _____ Time _____	Date _____ Time _____

The journal should start with a waxing crescent or first quarter moon. It should be visible at the end of the school day. During Week 1 students should be encouraged to look for the moon in the late afternoon and as well as at night. In this sample, the student observed a first quarter moon and a waxing gibbous moon.

At the beginning of the week, the student observed a full moon in the early evening before or around sundown. So, in addition to placing the full moon on the Night Moon Journal, the student added it to the above Day Moon Journal. Towards the end of the week the student observed the moon in the early morning.

During the third week the student observed a third quarter moon. The student observed the moon in the morning. The drawings towards the end of the week do not appear accurate—they represent a waxing gibbous.

The fourth week of observations involved a new moon, which is never visible. The teacher will need to direct the students to color the entire box blue, otherwise the students will not see the correct pattern.