GRADES 3–5

Moon Phase Detective

Name: _____

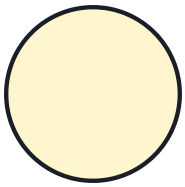
The Moon doesn't change shape. Half of it is always lit by the Sun. As the Moon travels around Earth, we see different amounts of that sunlit half. These shapes are called **phases**.

1 Name the phases

Write the correct name under each Moon. Use the word bank.

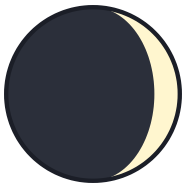
Waning Gibbous | First Quarter | New Moon | Waxing Crescent | Full Moon | Last Quarter | Waxing Gibbous | Waning Crescent

A



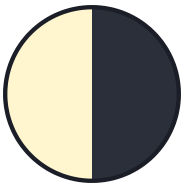
_____

B



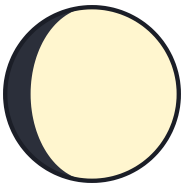
_____

C



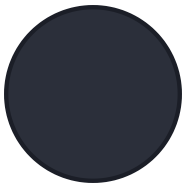
_____

D



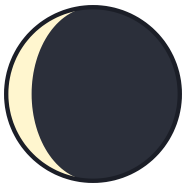
_____

E



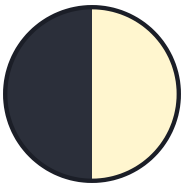
_____

F



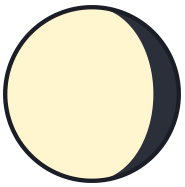
_____

G



_____

H



_____

Pictures show the Moon as seen from the Northern Hemisphere (U.S., Canada, Europe). In the Southern Hemisphere the lit side is flipped.

2 Put them in order

Start with the New Moon (E). Write the letters in the order the phases happen. Then it starts again!

E → ☐ → ☐ → ☐ → ☐ → ☐ → ☐ → ☐ → E …

3 Detective clues

1. **Waxing** means the lit part is getting _____. **Waning** means it is getting _____.
2. From one New Moon to the next takes about _____ days (about one month).
3. Which two phases look like half a circle? _____

GRADES 3–5 · PART 2

Detective Log

Name: _____

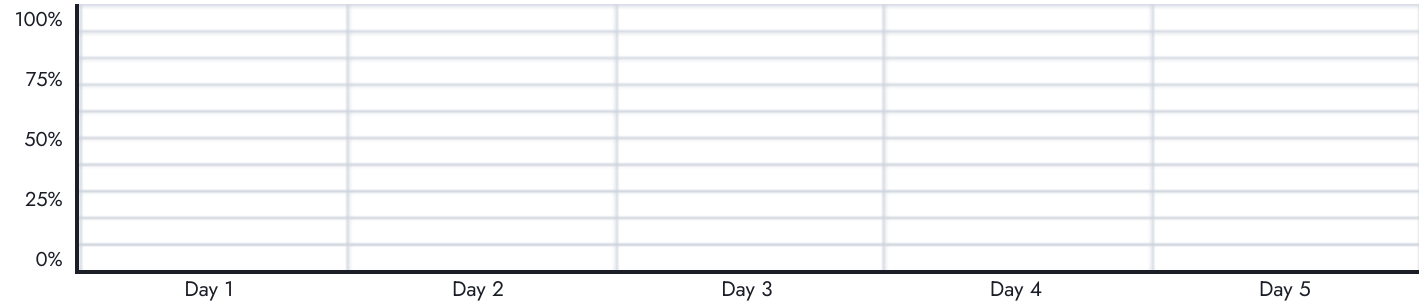
> **Where to look:** open the Skyline™ MOON UPDATE live stream (SkylineMoon.com/classroom). The **top-right corner** always shows the Moon's % lit and phase name, for example "MOON 26% · WANING CRESCENT".

4 Collect evidence

Check the live stream on 5 school days. Record what you see.

Day	Date	Phase name	% lit
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			

5 Graph it



Draw a bar for each day. Is the Moon **waxing** or **waning**? How do you know?

6 Make a prediction

Today the Moon looks like this:

Phase: _____

% lit:

In 7 days I predict:

Phase: _____

% lit:

Check it! In 7 days, look at the live stream again. Was your prediction right? ☐ Yes ☐ Close ☐ Not yet

The clue that helped me predict: