
Our Solar System

Reading Comprehension

The Moon

Satellites are objects that orbit a planet. Many of the planets in our solar system have satellites. These satellites can either be manmade or natural. One natural satellite of Earth is our moon. There are moons in our solar system that are larger, but it is still very big. However, the moon is much smaller than Earth. That is the reason that items weigh less on the moon than they do on Earth. When astronauts travel to the moon, they are able to float and bounce around.

Unlike Earth, the moon does not have any water on it. However, it does have craters, mountain ranges, and other special features. Like Earth, the moon is made up of layers. Some of these layers are rock solid, while others are molten like lava.

By exploring the moon, scientists have learned that there is no wind because there is no atmosphere on the moon. Since there is no atmosphere, there is no protection from the sun. The moon can get very hot during the day and very cold at night.

Humans have always been able to see the moon because of its proximity to Earth, but Galileo was the first person to look at the moon close up. He used a telescope to see it more closely and learned many amazing things about the moon.

Story Questions:

1. Which paragraph describes the physical features of the moon?
 - a. the first paragraph
 - b. the second paragraph
 - c. the third paragraph
 - d. the fourth paragraph

2. After reading the passage, you can infer that...
 - a. humans cannot live on the moon.
 - b. the moon used to be a planet.
 - c. the moon has living organisms on it.
 - d. the moon orbits the Sun quicker than Earth.

3. What is the author's opinion about the moon?
 - a. Galileo learned a lot of amazing things about the moon.
 - b. Scientists have studied the moon for years.
 - c. The moon is smaller than the Earth.
 - d. The moon is an incredibly interesting part of our solar system.

Letter Writing

4. "If you are ever feeling lonely, just look at the moon. Someone somewhere is looking right at it too."
Write a letter to someone in another country telling them about what you are experiencing with your five senses while looking at the moon tonight.

Math Worksheet

5. Practise [comparing integers](#).

Word Problems

6. **Read** the word problems below and **write** the answers.
 - ★ Marcus needed to find the number closest to 0 from a set of numbers. He put these numbers on a number line: -2, 3, 7, -5, 6, -6, -1. Which integer was closest to 0? Which integer had the greatest value? Which integer had the lowest value?
 - ★ Marcus needed to find the opposite value of each integer listed below and then place them in order on a number line. List the opposite value for each integer in the list in order on a vertical number line. Which of the integers from the number line has the greatest value? Which of the integers from the number line has the lowest value? Which integer is closest to 0?
-3, 6, 9, 12, -11, 13, -14, 7, 2, -1, -4

Fun Stuff!

7. With assistance from your parents/guardians, **create** your own [solar oven](#) in this STEM challenge. If you don't have enough sunlight, **try** this [moon rover](#) challenge instead.