

Lesson Plan

Moon Truth

Book: *The Moon*

Series: Space

Level: Beacon

Objective

To help students work as groups to recall details about the Moon.

Supplies

- *The Moon* book
- Paper and pencils

Before the Activity

Read *The Moon* out loud or assign it to students to read on their own.

Activity

Divide the students into three teams: Team Core, Team Mantle, and Team Crust. Give each team a sheet of paper, and ask students to write the numbers 1 through 12 down the left side of the page. Team members will work together to answer 12 questions about the Moon. You will read each question out loud. Then, you will read three answer choices. Members of each team should work together to figure out which letter is the correct answer. Students should write this letter next to the number on their paper. Use the following list of questions, in which the correct answers appear in bold:

1. How old is the Moon?
 - a. **billions of years old**
 - b. millions of years old
 - c. thousands of years old

2. What is a crater?
 - a. a layer of the Moon
 - b. a piece of the Moon
 - c. **a bowl-shaped hole**

3. What is the Moon's core made of?
 - a. dust and sand
 - b. iron and molten rock**
 - c. minerals and soil

4. What happens during a lunar eclipse?
 - a. The Moon becomes very bright.
 - b. The Moon comes between the Sun and Earth.
 - c. Earth comes between the Moon and the Sun.**

5. What does the pull of the Moon's gravity create on Earth?
 - a. tides**
 - b. craters
 - c. eclipses

6. When did people first land on the Moon?
 - a. 1940
 - b. 1969**
 - c. 1984

7. In what phase does the bright side of the Moon face away from Earth?
 - a. full moon
 - b. new moon**
 - c. first quarter

8. What is the surface of the Moon like?
 - a. smooth and slippery
 - b. rough and rocky**
 - c. soft and wet

9. What is the Moon's mantle made of?
 - a. iron and other materials**
 - b. aluminum
 - c. water and molten rock

10. In what phase does the Sun light up the Moon's whole face?
 - a. full moon**
 - b. new moon
 - c. last quarter

11. From Earth, how long does the Moon look full?
- a. less than one night
 - b. two or three nights**
 - c. five nights
12. Approximately how long does it take for the Moon to orbit Earth?
- a. 15 days
 - b. 23 days
 - c. 29 days**

Evaluation

After you have read all 12 questions, go back through the list and reveal the correct answers. As you do, each group should keep track of its score. The group with the most correct answers wins.

Standards

This lesson may be used to address the Common Core State Standards' reading standards for informational text, grade 3 (RI 3.1).