

Name _____

Moon Magic: Understanding Lunar Phases and Changing Shapes

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Answers will vary, but students should describe the Earth as a bright, round object in the lunar sky, similar to how the Moon appears from Earth during a Full Moon.
2. Lunar phases can be used to track the passage of time and seasons on Earth because they occur in a predictable cycle, allowing people to gauge the time of month and year based on the Moon's appearance.
3. The Earth plays a crucial role in creating lunar phases because it blocks the Sun's light from reaching the Moon when it is in the New Moon phase and allows sunlight to fully illuminate the Moon during the Full Moon phase.
4. Answers may vary, but students can mention cultural celebrations, religious rituals, and historical connections related to lunar phases in different societies around the world.

