

Name _____

Discovering and Naming Moons: How Astronomers Uncover Celestial Companions

Open-Ended Response Questions

1. Imagine you are an astronomer who has discovered a new moon in a distant planetary system. Describe the steps you would take to verify its existence and propose a meaningful name for it.
2. Discuss the importance of international cooperation and guidelines in astronomy, especially in the context of moon discovery and naming. What challenges might arise without such cooperation?
3. Moons come in various shapes and sizes, each with its own unique characteristics. Explain how the discovery and naming of moons contribute to our understanding of the solar system and the universe as a whole.
4. If you were to name a moon after a character from your favorite myth or legend, which character would you choose and why? What qualities of the character make it suitable for a moon's name?

