

Name _____

Discovering and Naming Moons: How Astronomers Uncover Celestial Companions

Open-Ended Response Answer Key

1. Answers may vary but could include steps like collecting additional data, consulting with fellow astronomers, proposing names with mythological relevance, and submitting the discovery to the International Astronomical Union (IAU) for approval.
2. International cooperation and guidelines are essential to maintain order and consistency in moon naming. Without such cooperation, confusion could arise with duplicate names, and naming choices might become arbitrary or biased.
3. The discovery and naming of moons provide insights into the diversity and history of celestial bodies in our solar system. They also aid in understanding planetary systems and their formation.
4. Answers will vary depending on the chosen character and the qualities associated with that character. Students should provide a rationale for their choice.

