

# The light of the Moon



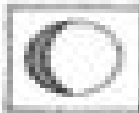
## Background knowledge

As the Moon travels around Earth, we see different amounts of the Moon lit up by the Sun. This is known as the phases of the Moon. When the Moon is lit up and is round, it is called a full moon. The amount of the Moon's visible side we see, gradually shrinks or waxes. When the Moon is not lit up by the Sun, it is called a new moon. During a new moon, you cannot see the Moon in the sky. After a new moon, the amount we can see of the visible side grows, or waxes, until right until it is a full moon again.

## Science activity

Draw a line from each of the phases below to show its correct position in the sequence from new moon to new moon. (A gibbous phase is when about three-quarters of the Moon is lit up.)

Gibbous  
waning



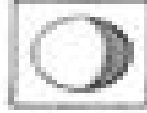
Crescent  
waning



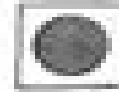
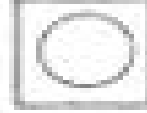
Crescent  
waxing



Gibbous  
waxing



Full moon



New moon

New moon

## Science investigation

What does the Moon look like tonight?  
What phase is showing? Make your own chart to keep track of the Moon's phases over a month.

