Project Moon Watch

What You Need

- moon calendar

Find Out
Do this activity to see how the moon’s appearance changes during a 30-day period.

Process Skills
Observing
Communicating
Inferring

Time
- 30 minutes for opening discussion
- 5 minutes of observation and drawing for 30 days
- 20 minutes of discussion time on the last day
What To Do

1. **Observe** the moon for 30 days. On your moon calendar, **color** any part of the moon that you cannot see.

2. At the end of 30 days, bring your moon calendar back to class. Compare your moons with others.

3. If there were clouds, complete the moons you left blank by **inferring** what each moon would look like if you had been able to see it.
Conclusions

1. Did everyone’s drawings show the moon in the same phases?

2. Did the moon phases change in a regular pattern? Explain.

New Questions

1. Was your neighborhood a good place to see the phases of the moon?

2. Write a new question you have about moon phases.
Modeling Day and Night

**Predict** what will happen when you spin the ball.

____________________________________________________

____________________________________________________

____________________________________________________

____________________________________________________

**Record** what happens when you spin the ball.

____________________________________________________

____________________________________________________

____________________________________________________

____________________________________________________
What Happened

1. What object in space is like the ball?
   What object in space is like the flashlight?

2. What happens when the dot faces away from the flashlight?

What If

What would happen if you did not spin the ball?
Modeling the Moon

Draw how the ball changed when you turned.
What Happened

1. What object in space is like the ball? What object in space is like the flashlight?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

2. What happens to the ball when you are facing toward the flashlight? What happens when you are facing away from the flashlight?

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

________________________________________________________________________

What If

What would happen if you got between the light and the ball?
Name __________________________

**ACTIVITY**

**Shining Sunlight**

**Count** the number of squares in the lighted area. **Write** your answers in the boxes.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Flashlight Straight</th>
<th>Flashlight Tilted</th>
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What Happened

1. Imagine the flashlight is the sun and the light on the paper is sunlight as it hits Earth. Which try is like the sun and Earth in winter? Which try is like summer?

2. Why did the outlines change?

What If

What would happen if the flashlight were always held straight down?