

Explore at home...

On a clear night, you can see the moon in the sky...

See if you can spot it.

What shape does it appear to be at the moment?

Draw it here:



Why can we see the moon at night?

Mrs Smith says:

The Moon is grey rock
which shows up
against the black sky.

Miss Gover says:

The moon reflects
Sunlight.

Mrs Leach says:

The Moon glows
in the sky.

Who do you think is correct? _____

Let's find out...*

You will need:

- 1 torch (the Sun)
- 1 small sphere (e.g. tennis ball) wrapped in foil (the Moon)
- 1 dark room

1. Start with your objects in a dark room – can you see the Moon?
2. Shine your torch (Sun) on the foil ball (Moon) – can you see the Moon now?
3. Can you see a reflection from the foil ball anywhere in the room?
4. Imagine where you see the reflection, is the Earth.
5. Why does this investigation help us explain why we can see the Moon in the night sky?

The Moon does not have a shiny surface so we only see a small amount of light reflected.

*If you are unable to carry out the test, watch this clip several times to see if you can find out the answer...

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/zvw8q6f>



Use the words to fill in the gaps:

This investigation/video helps us to see that the _____ **does not** make its own _____.

The Moon _____ light from the _____ to the _____.

This is why when we see the Moon at night, it appears to _____.

Sun

Moon

reflects

light

shine

Earth

Which teacher was correct? _____