

# Earth

# 2. Universe

## CONCEPT 3

### THE MOON

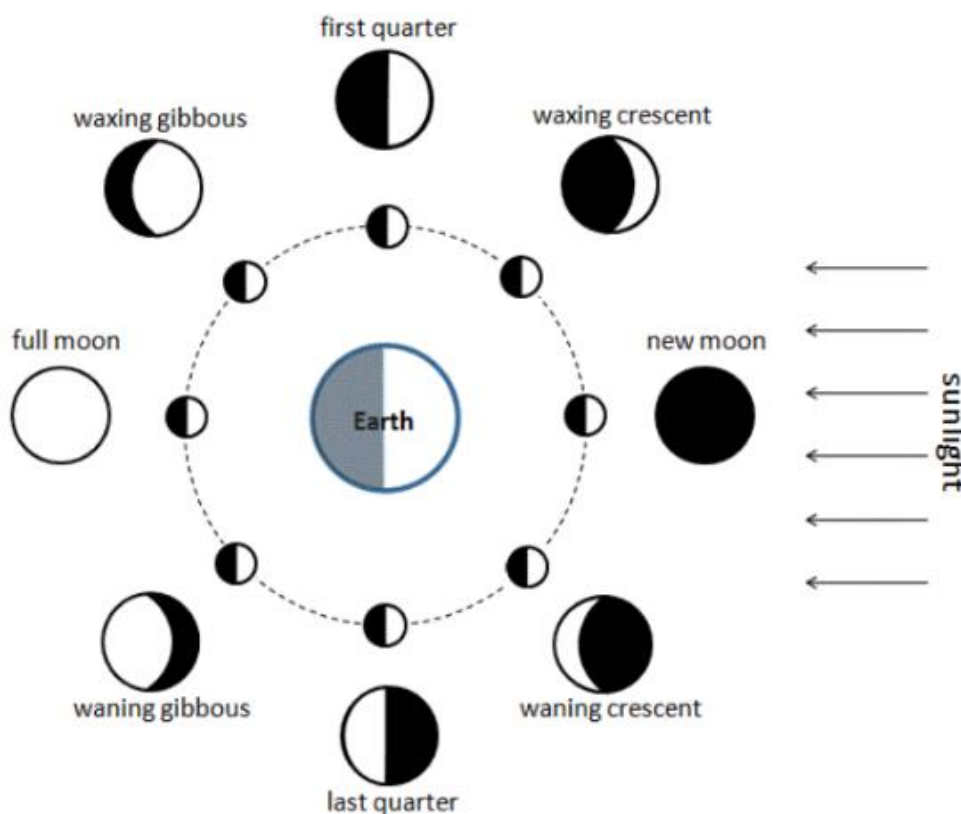
#### NOTES

The moon is a natural satellite that orbits the Earth due to gravity, its mass is smaller than the Earth (about 1/6<sup>th</sup> of the Earth's gravity).

The moon has no atmosphere and no water. It is a lifeless place with a landscape full of craters.

The difference between the Earth and moon is that the Earth has processes that can erase evidence of crater impacts. The moon does not have these processes. Pretty much any tiny impact on the moon's surface stays there.

There are three processes that help the Earth keep its surface free from craters. The first is erosion, second plate tectonics and the third is volcanism. Volcanic flows can cover up impacts craters on the Earth's surface.



This means Scientists have a tough job trying to find impact craters on the Earth from long ago.

It takes one month for the moon to orbit the Earth, as the moon orbits us it appears different at different stages of its orbit due to the amount of light reaching it at that point. We call these different appearances phases.

The phases are as follows: new moon, crescent, first quarter, gibbous, full moon, gibbous, last quarter, and crescent.

Note; Gibbous refers to the shape, which is less than the full circle of a Full Moon, but larger than the semicircle shape of the Moon at Third Quarter.

The gravitational attraction between the Earth and moon cause the Earth's seas to have tides, each part of the world experiences two high tides and two low tides each day.