



The moon has no light of its own. It only reflects light

Why does the moon look like different shapes throughout the month?

Because of its orbit, the path it takes around the earth.

The shape depends on where it is in its orbit around earth

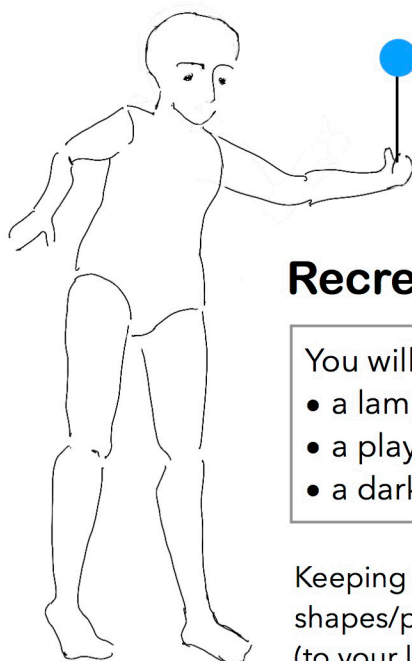
You are going to use the ball and your head to see the different shapes the moon makes during its orbit around the earth.

There is always half of the moon lit by the sun, but it is the moon's position in relation to you/earth that determines the shape that you see.

EARTH  
your head

MOON  
the ball

THE SUN  
the lamp



## Recreate the Phases of the Moon

You will need:

- a lamp
- a playball attached onto a stick
- a darkened room

Keeping your arm outstretched you will see the shapes/phases of the moon lit up as you turn around (to your left) on the spot.

### Moon phases/shapes

New moon  
Crescent  
First quarter  
Waxing gibbous  
Full moon  
Waning gibbous  
Last quarter  
Waning crescent  
New moon again

