

Moon and Stars

THIS IS ABOUT

patterns
shapes
observing change

YOU WILL NEED

scissors
string or yarn
paper in various colors or
recycled greeting cards or calendars



GETTING READY

Invite your child to look at the moon with you. Keep track of the different phases of the moon. You can do this by looking at it every night and making a simple illustration on your calendar. Some calendars have the moon in all its phases on them.



ACTIVITY

1. When you have three or four different shapes of the moon, draw them on cardboard or white paper and cut them out.
2. Cut out some star shapes.
3. Trace and cut out as many stars and moons as you like and lay them out in a pattern.

4. When your child has created a pattern, string the moon and star shapes together. Let your child pick a special place to hang them.



Investigating Patterns:

- ☆ If you have three moons and six stars, what kinds of patterns could you create? What if you doubled that amount?
- ☆ What other patterns can you create?
- ☆ Does the moon really change its shape?
- ☆ Design some suns and add them to your patterns.

More Fun

Write the names of each member of your family on a star or a moon. Arrange them in a pattern. For instance, you could line them up from oldest to youngest.

INSIGHT

Children create simple patterns at first (A, B, A, B) and move onto more complex patterns as they mature and gain experience. There are patterns everywhere in mathematics and science. Learning to see them and to create them will help your child be a successful problem solver.