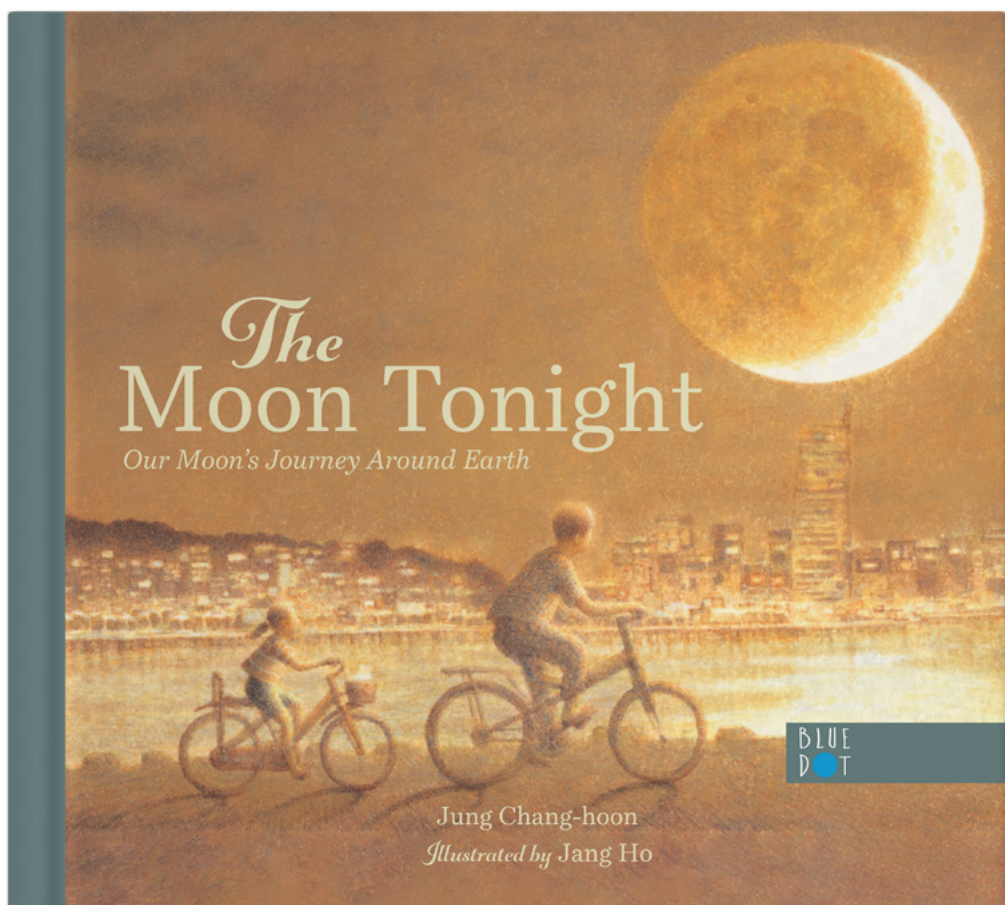




Your Teacher's Guide

from Blue Dot Kids Press



“Comprehensive. . . . Beautifully illustrated and carefully explained . . . an attractive, helpful addition to the science shelf.”

—*Kirkus Reviews*

The Moon Tonight: Our Moon's Journey Around Earth
written by Jung Chang-hoon, illustrated by Jang Ho, and translated by Paige Morris
Pub Date January 23, 2023 | ISBN 9781737603252 | Ages 4–9



We intentionally leave this page blank so our guides can be printed like a book.



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Before Reading

Establish background knowledge.

- What do the title and cover illustrations tell you about the book? Where do you think the story takes place? Who will be in the story? What might happen in the story?
- What do the bios on the inside flap of the back cover tell you about the author, Jung Chang-hoon, and the illustrator, Jang Ho? Where in the world is South Korea? What do you know about South Korea? What do you think the sky looks like above South Korea? Is the moon there the same as the one where you live? What is an astronomer?
- Look through the illustrations in the book. Have you seen the moon look like it does in the different paintings? Do you have nicknames for the moon’s different shapes?

During Reading

As you read, pause with each new word or new use of a familiar word. Here are some of those terms:

Horizon	Cycle
Waxing	Phase
Waning	Ebb tide
Crescent	Flow tide
First-quarter	Mountains
Full	Seas
Last-quarter	



Discuss concepts beyond vocabulary.

- How do the illustrations create mood, clarify the topic, and show the setting?
- Do the experiment on spread 10 and discuss.
- Discuss the topics in the note from the author at the end of the book.



After Reading

Check for understanding.

- Have available a calendar for the current month that shows when each moon phase happens. Discuss which moon was the night before, which tonight, next week. Invite students to look at the moon on their own and then share what they notice with the class the next day.
- Working together, make moon “puppets”—they can be as simple as paper cutouts—of the phases to help act out daily and monthly cycles.
- What surprised you in this book?
- What is the author’s purpose for writing this book?
- What new information did you learn as you read?



Research

Astronomers, like the author of *The Moon Tonight*, use telescopes to learn about the moon.

- What is a telescope? What does it do?
- What does a telescope help you see? Can you use a telescope only to look at the moon?

Make a telescope!

National Geographic Kids offers instructions for making a simple telescope out of fairly common and inexpensive items. Using these, keep track of what you see for a week. What details did your telescope help you see? (Instructions here: <https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/nature/article/make-a-telescope>)



Flip Out Over the Moon!

Many of the pages in *The Moon Tonight* contain extra little drawings to further show the moon's transformation over a period of time. Make a paper flip book to bring these illustrations to life!

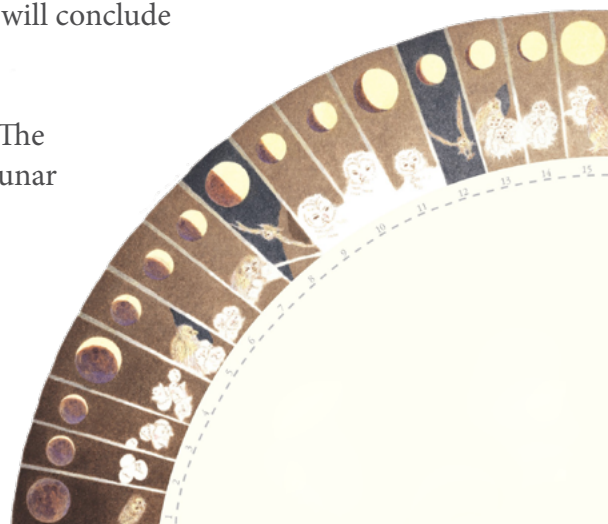
The small images on **spreads 3, 5, and 7** and the full-size drawings on **spread 9** may work particularly well for this activity. Choose a set of images and copy them in your own style.

MATERIALS: Mid-weight paper like construction paper or index cards is good for flipping. Stacks of sticky notes are also great for flip books because they come bound together—like a book! Start with a pencil, so mistakes can easily be corrected.

Tip: Remember that the image you hold on the bottom of the stack will be the first one in your flip book and the one on the top will conclude your moon story!

Adaptation: Fan out! Instead of flipping out, fan out! The image on **spread 14**, which shows one month in the lunar calendar, would make a great fan.

Use pens or paints to make it as colorful as you want. Copy the moon as best you can but use your imagination for the animals on the calendar—what animals like to come out at night? Move through the phases of the moon—just in a different way.



Tell Two Stories in One

The illustrations in *The Moon Tonight* both show what the text is talking about and show more: there are characters, a child, and an adult in the paintings—but not in the text.

When you read this book, it is like reading two stories: one about the moon and one about two people exploring outside, looking at the moon!

Try it yourself!

Write and illustrate a story of your own in this style. First, think about something you know about—it could be facts about your dog, different ice cream flavors, your daily schedule, or, now, the moon! Write a short book about this topic. Then draw pictures to go with it—and add something extra in those drawings. Maybe you are with your dog in the drawings. Maybe there are superheroes in a story about ice cream. How are your characters interacting with your topic, without saying a word?

Citizen Science

Citizen science, also called **community science**, happens when people study the world around them and send the data they collect to scientists.

A citizen scientist is anyone—young or old, who has attended a lot of school or who hasn't, from a city or a small town—who collects data for research projects and helps to answer real scientific questions. Citizen scientists offer invaluable help because, together, they can collect data over greater distances and longer periods of time than scientists and researchers alone.

Light Pollution



Globe at Night wants to help people better understand light pollution.

Just like gas-powered cars and improperly dumped garbage cause pollution, so does artificial light. The bright lights of city buildings, streetlights, and transportation that never turn off can negatively affect everything from bird migratory patterns to sea turtle babies and more. Globe at Night offers simple steps to collecting and submitting light pollution data where you live, as well as other educational resources. Details here: <https://www.globeatnight.org>



[Blue Dot Kids Press](#) inspires curiosity with beautifully crafted stories that connect us to each other and the planet we share. Written and illustrated by impassioned **storytellers and artists from around the world**, our books engage young readers' innate sense of **wonder and empathy**, connecting them to our global community and **the pale blue dot we call home**.

As an **independent, mission-driven**, children's publisher based in San Francisco, California, and Wellington, New Zealand, our **passion for nature and its stewardship** are evident in every book we publish—as well as in our business practices.

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Visit us at bluedotkidspress.com for more information and resources.