

Paper Plate Education

"Serving the Universe on a Paper Plate"

Activity: Oreo Moon Phases



Halve and scrape Oreo® cookies to illustrate moon phases. Then arrange cookies on plate's perimeter around a central Earth. Prior to the student project, the teacher can build a larger version, using regular-size cookies on a round cake tray. A useful instruction sheet (right) is at [oreo-template.doc](#), courtesy of Becky Nelson.



After twisting apart bite-size Oreo® cookies, students scrape off the cream to simulate the four primary moon phases.



Young students place the appropriate moon phases on pre-marked, labeled paper plates.



The rewards of studying science prove tasty.



A teacher uses cake frosting to "glue" the moon phases onto the paper plate. Peanut butter (as glue) works well for the short term, but in time it causes the plate to get greasy under the cookies.



How can you not smile when the only failed components are cookies to be eaten?



Older students can place additional components on their plates.



Of course, with the completion of a plate comes an array of scraps to be disposed...somehow.



A successful plate yields a deserved smile of satisfaction.



Plates await the end of the school day to be taken home.

For techniques in using a more advanced version of this plate, see the [Moon Finder](#) activity.

Contributed by Chuck Bueter.



Check out this [instruction sheet](#) for practical tips, courtesy of Becky Nelson.

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