

## Daisy Space Science Explorer Badge

# The Moon

This sheet provides basic facts about the Moon to help you and your girls embark on the Space Science Explorer badge.

### Words to Know-

Here is some vocabulary to get you started . . .

**Orbit:** The path one object takes around another

**Lunar:** Anything relating to the Moon

**Phases of the Moon:** The apparent change in shape of the Moon. This is due to how much of its sunlit side is facing the Earth.

### KEY FACTS-

- The Moon is a ball just like the Earth, but smaller (about one quarter of the size of Earth).
- The Moon circles (orbits) the Earth.
- The Moon reflects sunlight. It is lit by the Sun the same way Earth is.
- As the Moon orbits the Earth, we see different amounts of its surface lit up, giving the impression that the Moon is changing shape. These 'changing shapes' are the Phases of the Moon.
- The Moon completes a set of phases in about 29 and one-half days (almost a month).

### FUN FACTS TO SHARE WITH GIRLS-

- The Moon is visible in the sky for roughly 12 hours a day. Because of this, we are able to see the Moon during the daytime and the nighttime.
- The Moon rises and sets in different places along the horizon every day.
- The Moon rises and sets at different times depending on where it is in its orbit.
- The Moon is made of materials similar to those of the Earth.

### DIGGING DEEPER-

If you'd like to know more about the Moon, check out these helpful links—

NASA's Moon website: <http://www.nasa.gov/moon>

Search for your city's moonrise and moonset here: <http://www.timeanddate.com/moon/usa>