**Earthshine**

Today in Science class, Mr. Smith taught us about earthshine.

Things I learned:

* When the moon is lit on the right-hand side, it is the first quarter.
* If you were on the moon looking back at the earth at a first quarter moon, the earth would look as if the earth was in third quarter.
* The earth is very reflective because of all the white clouds in the atmosphere.
* The moon is not very reflective because it is the color of dry sidewalk pavement.
* The sun reflecting off the waning gibbous earth is so bright that it lights up the moon so that even in its night that it is as bright as a cloudy day here.
* The darker shaded areas on the moon are called seas because the first person to use a telescope to look at the moon (Galileo) was using a telescope that was less powerful than a good pair of binoculars today and he thought that the dark parts looked like seas.
* He called the biggest sea an ocean.
* Mare is Italian for sea.
* Maria is Italian for seas.
* Seas were formed on the moon when super-huge things hit it and made a lava lake.
* After a while, there weren’t that many big chunks out there to hit the moon.
* Craters are ten times as big as the chunk of rock that hit them.

