Look Up! Our Sky



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The Daytime Sky

Look up. What do you see? You see the sky.

■ What do you see in the daytime sky? You may see clouds. You may see the sun.



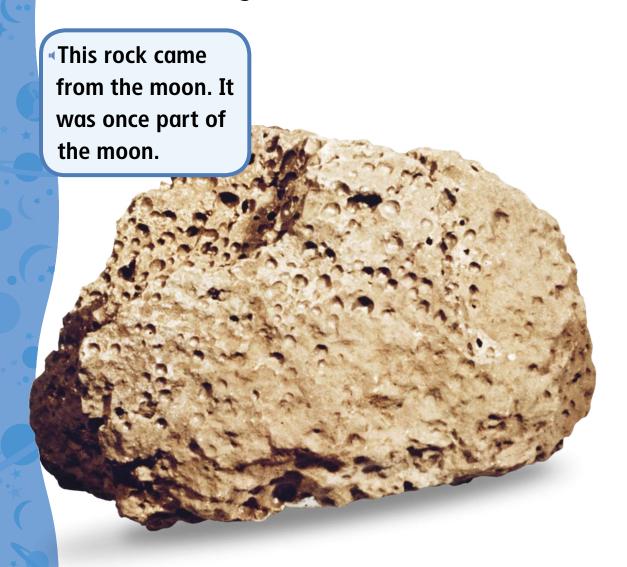


The **sun** is a star. It is the star closest to Earth. A **star** is an object in the sky that gives off its own light. The sun lights Earth in the daytime.

COMPARE AND CONTRAST Name one way daytime and nighttime are different.

The Nighttime Sky

Look at the night sky. What do you see? You may see stars. You may see planets. You may see the moon. The **moon** is a huge ball of rock.



The moon looks bright, but it does not give off its own light. The moon's light comes from the sun.

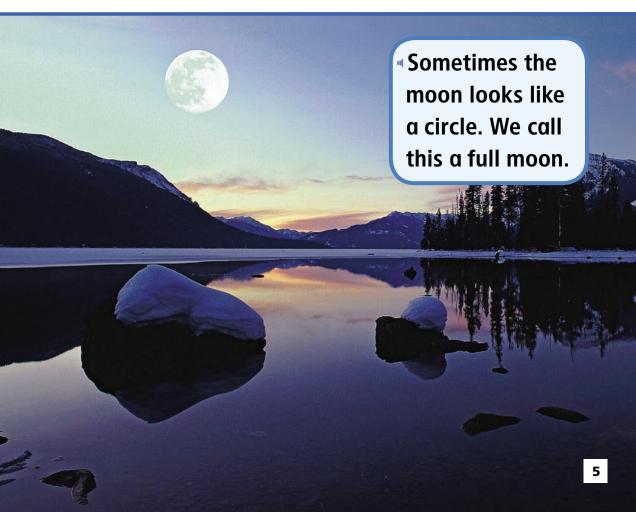
Fast Fact

Earth only has one moon. Some planets have more.

The moon is not a star.

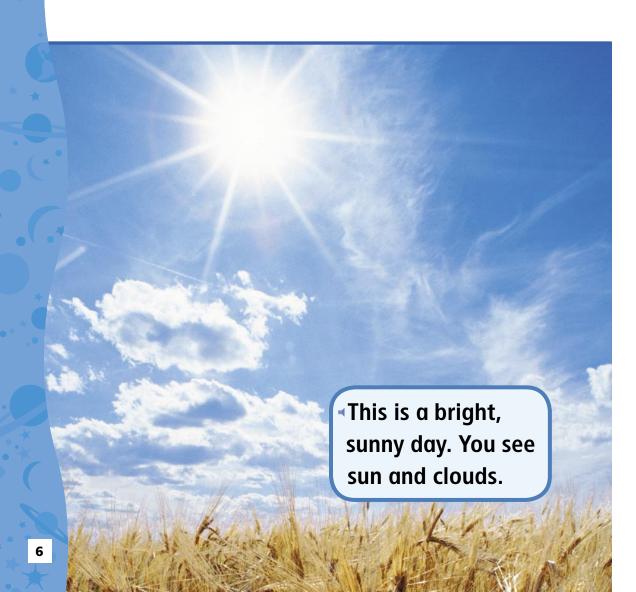


COMPARE AND CONTRAST How are the sun and the moon different?



Day or Night?

Look up at the sky. What do you see? You see the sun and clouds. It is bright and sunny. Is it daytime or nighttime? It is daytime!





Look up at the sky again. What do you see this time? You see stars, planets, and the moon. Is it daytime or nighttime? It is nighttime!



Day and Night

The sun seems to move across the sky each day. It is not really moving. It is Earth that moves! Earth **rotates**. It spins like a top.

Fast Fact

◆Earth rotates once every 24 hours. There are 24 hours in one day.





It is night. The sky is dark. The side of Earth we live on turns toward the sun as Earth rotates. The sun lights the sky. We have day. Earth keeps rotating. Our side turns away from the sun. The sky gets dark. We have night.



What Is Moving?

The sun, moon, and stars seem to move. Earth spins slowly. We can not feel it moving. This makes it seem as if the sun, moon, and stars are moving.



CAUSE AND EFFECT Why does it seem as if the sun, moon, and stars are moving?



Summary

We see the sun and clouds in the daytime sky. We see stars, planets, and the moon in the nighttime sky. The sun is a star. The moon is not. Earth rotates. This causes night and day.



Glossary

- **moon** A huge ball of rock in the sky that does not give off its own light (4, 5, 7, 10, 11)
- **rotate** To spin around like a top (8, 9, 11)
- **star** An object in the sky that gives off its own light (3, 4, 5, 7, 10, 11)
- **sun** The star closest to Earth (2, 3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 11)

Think and Write

- 1. Tell what you know about the sky.
- 2. COMPARE AND CONTRAST Tell how the sun and the stars are alike.
- **3. CAUSE AND EFFECT** Why is it daytime in the United States when it is nighttime in China?
- **4.** Write a list of things you like about nighttime.

Hands-On Activity

Work with a partner. Make a list of things that tell you it is daytime.

School-Home Connection

Talk with a family member about the moon and its shape tonight.