

Mission: Moon

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. What type of celestial body is the Moon?

2. Where is it, or which body does it orbit?

3. Copy an important time period and say what it measures.

4. Copy a temperature or a feature of its environment.

Type	Natural satellite
Diameter	3,474.8 km
Mass (Earth = 1)	0.0123 Earth masses
Average distance	384,400 km from Earth
Orbital period	27.32 days around Earth
Rotation	27.32 days
Temperature	-173 to 127 °C
Main orbiting bodies	No satellites

5. Choose two figures from the table and explain their units.

6. Explain this comparison in your own words: Its diameter is a little over a quarter of Earth's.

Check and explain

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7. Does the Moon have a thick atmosphere?

- A. Yes, like Earth
- B. Yes, like Venus
- C. No, only an extremely thin exosphere
- D. Yes, made of methane

8. Which programme aims to return astronauts to the Moon?

- A. Artemis
- B. Cassini
- C. Juno
- D. Viking

9. What are the Moon's "seas"?

- A. Present-day oceans
- B. Vast plains of solidified lava
- C. Clouds
- D. Floating glaciers

10. The Moon's surface gravity is about...

- A. The same as Earth's
- B. One sixth of Earth's
- C. Twice Earth's
- D. Zero

11. Write two units from the table and the quantities they measure.

12. Why is an illustration not always drawn to scale?

13. Give one similarity and one difference compared with Earth.

Investigate like a scientist

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Text to analyse

The Moon's synchronous rotation keeps nearly the same side facing us. Its craters, dark maria and rocks preserve valuable evidence of the early Solar System. The Moon's rotation is synchronous: it takes as long to spin once as it does to orbit Earth. We therefore see nearly the same side all the time.

14. Copy one observation or checkable fact from the text.

15. Write a scientific question you would like to investigate.

Writing mini-mission

Imagine a spacecraft studying the Moon. Describe what it observes and what it aims to measure. Write 5 to 7 sentences using at least three scientific terms. Do not invent a solid surface on a gas giant or present a hypothesis as a fact.

Scientific terms used: _____