

Title of Text: The Night Sky  
Author/Illustrator: Robin Nelson

GRL: E

Series: First Step Nonfiction

Genre: Nonfiction, Discovering Nature's Cycle



**Standard:** Use the illustrations and details in a text to describe its key ideas.

Lesson Objectives: To use the illustrations and details in the text to describe its key ideas, to make connections, and compare and contrast

Comprehension Strategy: Making Connections

Skill: Compare and Contrast

Fluency: Accuracy

**Academic Vocabulary:** explain or research the meanings of the words below. Discuss the morphology of the words: suffixes, taking a root word and adding to it to change the meaning of the word. Have students talk about the meaning of each word, using antonyms, synonyms and situations where each word can be used correctly.

a. orbits

b. crescent

c. circle

#### Before Reading: ENGAGE! THINK!


1. Build Background Knowledge
  - a. Let's look at the front and back cover. What do you know about this topic?
  - b. What would you like to learn about the night sky?
  - c. What different shapes have you seen for the moon?
  - d. When do you see the moon?
2. Skill Introduction:
  - a. Compare and Contrast – as we read today, compare and contrast the different shapes of the moon.
3. Strategy Introduction:
  - a. Making Connections – today I want you to make connections with past experiences as we read. As yourself what does that remind you of? What do you have a connection with and why?
4. Fluency: Accuracy – read page 3 inaccurately. Tell the students they should be working on reading accurately. Talk about how you read inaccurately and what you could have done better.



**Standard** - What we will be working on is using the illustrations and details in the text to describe its key ideas.


**During Reading:** Don't Wait Until It's Too Late! Check for Understanding (Stop Midway through the Book)


1. Tell me about a part you didn't understand?
2. Turn and Talk: how is using the strategy of making connections helpful in your reading?
3. When do we see the moon?
4. Draw some of the changes of the moon?
5. Which is your favorite shape?

6.  **Standard:** Use the illustration on page 7 and the words on that page to describe how the moon orbits Earth?

**After Reading: EVALUATE!**

1. What is the most important thing to remember from this book? What are the details that can help you remember this?
2. What did you learn?
3. What more do you want to learn the night sky?
4. What is the shape of the moon called that is a thin curve?

5.  **Standard:** Turn to page 18 and page 19. Describe the phases of the moon?

6.  **Standard:** Compare and Contrast the different moons.

7. **Academic Vocabulary:** Four of the five words begin with the letter "C". Do these letters make the same sound? If not what is different?



**Writing Standard:** Write opinion pieces in which they introduce the topic or name the book they are writing about, state an opinion, supply a reason for the opinion, and provide some sense of closure

**Task:** Write an opinion piece on which shape of the moon you think is the best. Why do you think this? Use the information above to help you write.

**IF/THEN:** Compare and Contrast - Use a Venn diagram as a group. Model how to use a Venn diagram. Have the kids work in partners. They each write their name at the top of a circle. They have a discussion about themselves. When they find something they have in common, they write it where the circles intersect. When they find something they have that is different, they write it in their own circle. It is a good starting point.