# Observing the Moon What can you see on the Moon? 

| Leader's Role |
| :--- | :--- |
| MATERIALS: <br> Copies of the Skywatcher's Guide to the Moon for visitors. You may want to copy your <br> club information on the back of the handouts. The master for the handout can be found <br> below. You may print out and copy as many as you need. <br> (Anticipated) |
| To Do: |
| Hand out the Moon map guides. |
| To Say: |
| Compare the Moon in the sky to |
| look up - can you find the and |
| Moon? |
| handout. |
| The Moon map shows the side of |
| the Moon that is always facing |
| us. |
| How much of the Moon in the |
| sky is lit up right now? |
| Now look at the map. You will only see the features on the part of |
| the Moon that is lit up. |
| When you look at the Moon through the telescopes tonight, you |
| may need to turn the map to match your view of the Moon in the |
| eyepiece. |
| Some telescopes will flip your view as if you were looking at the |
| Moon in a mirror. The small photo of the Moon on your handout |
| shows a mirror image of the Moon. |

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Additional astronomy activities can be found here: http://nightsky.jpl.nasa.gov

## SKYWATCHER'S GUIDE TO THE MOON



## Aristarchus

Young crater. So bright that Sir William Herschel thought it was an active volcano.

## Kepler

Small version of Copernicus

Grimaldi
Lava-filled crater is one of the darkest spots you can see on the Moon. It's 145 miles wide ( 233 km ).

## Mare Humorum

The Sea of Moisture is about 220 miles ( 350 km ) across. You can spot it with the naked eye. With a telescope, you might notice two craters along its edge.

## Impact!

The Moon's cratered surface tells a violent story. Bright areas are ancient crust that make up the highlands. Dark areas are newer regions of lava that formed after asteroid impacts.

## Copernicus

This crater (left) is easy to spot. It formed about 800 million years ago, and is 57 miles ( 92 km ) wide. Note central peaks and terraced walls, caused by impact.

## What do you see on the Moon?

Face south and look up in the sky.
Can you find the Moon?
Compare the Moon in the sky to the large Moon map below. The Moon map shows the side of the Moon that is always facing us. How much of the Moon in the sky is lit up right now? You will only see the features on the part of the Moon that is lit up.
Through a telescope, you may need to turn the map to match your view of the Moon in the eyepiece. Some telescopes will flip the image, so the Moon might look like the image to the right through a telescope.


## Mare Serenitatis

The Sea of Serenity is solid lava, some 380 miles ( 610 km ) across.

## Mare Crisium

The Sea of Crisis is about 340 miles wide ( 550 km ) and visible to the naked eye.

