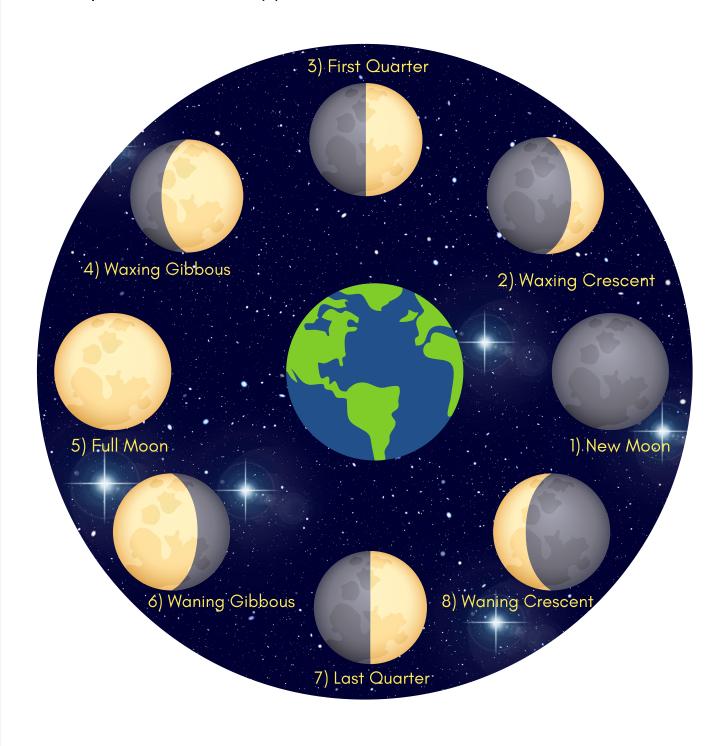
## **Phases of the Moon**

It is beneficial and important to understand the Islamic calendar. We can do this by learning the phases of the moon. At first, the moon looks like a very thin line which then begins to grow (wax) until it becomes a full circle. The moon then begins to thin (wane) again little by little until it disappears.



### **Phases of the Moon**

The Moon displays these eight phases one after the other as it moves through its cycle each month. It takes approximately 27 days for the Moon to orbit the Earth. The lunar cycle (new moon to new moon) is approximately 29 days.

New Moon: We cannot see the moon when it is a new moon.

**Waxing Crescent:** Waxing means getting bigger. We see the moon as a thin crescent where the sun shines on it on the right side.

First Quarter: We see the first quarter phase as a half moon.

**Waxing Gibbous:** The waxing gibbous phase is between a half moon and full moon.

**Full Moon:** We can see the moon completely illuminated during full moons.

**Waning Gibbous:** The waning gibbous phase is between a half-moon and full moon. Waning means it is getting smaller.

**Third Quarter:** We see the third quarter moon as a half moon, too. It is the opposite half as illuminated in the first quarter moon.

**Waning Crescent:** We see the waning crescent phase as a thin crescent of light on the left.

# **Moon Phases Flip Book**

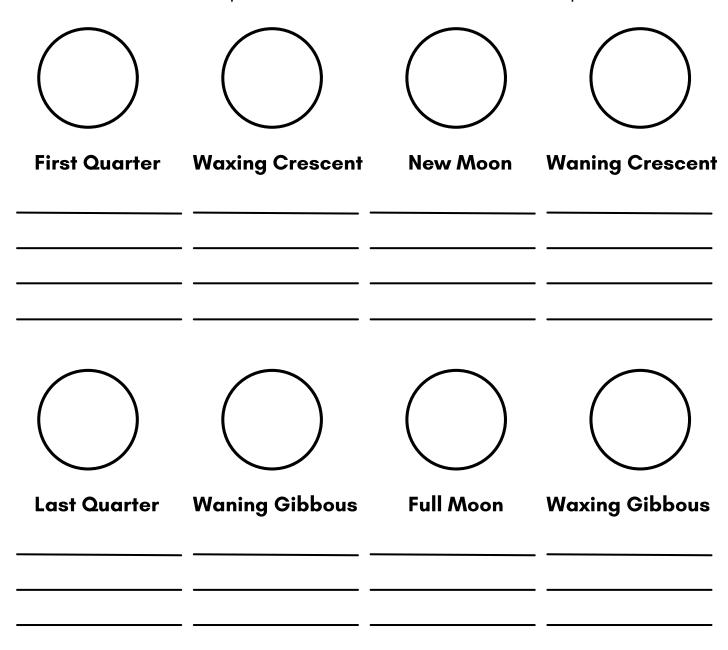
# New Moon Waxing Crescent First Quarter Waxing Gibbous Full Moon Last Quarter Waning Crescent

Cut out the flip book. Cut along the dotted line on each flap of the title page. Put glue here and place under the title page.



# **Phases of the Moon**

In the blank circles, draw the Moon phase you would see from Earth and write an explanation for each of the different phases.



- 1. When we see the new moon, it means Ramadan is here! Find the new moon.
- 2. The Night of Power, known as Laylat al-Qadr, falls in the last 10 nights of Ramadan, during the third quarter and waning crescent. Find the last two phases of the moon.
- 3. Eid falls on the 1st of Shawwal. Which moon phase appears the night before Eid?