



Moon Sand

Supplies needed:

- 8 cups plain flour
- 1 cup baby oil (or any oil)
- gallon storage bag
- Tubs to contain sand

Instructions:

1. Mix oil and flour together
2. Mimic the surface of the moon by creating craters in your sand. **Why does the moon have craters?**



What did you learn?

The sun is the center of our solar system, therefore the Earth revolves around the sun. On the other hand, the moon revolves around the Earth.

Even smaller space rocks called asteroids are pulled into the Earth and the moon. **Why is everything held together like this?** This system is held together by gravitational forces. The larger the object the more pull it has on objects around it, this is known as a large gravitational force. So why does the moon have craters? The moon's craters are caused by asteroids crashing into the surface because they are pulled in by gravity. The earth does not have nearly as many craters because its atmosphere breaks down the asteroid before it hits. The moon's gravitational force also dictates ocean tides on Earth! The force pulls the ocean towards the moon, because the Earth is rotating. Two tides occur daily.

The moon's orbit around the Earth is 30 days long. You can track this cycle by looking at the phases of the moon. These phases are seen because of the position of the sun, the moon and yourself. (Take a moon phase sheet to track the cycle!)

Information referenced from NAP: Earth and Space Sciences and photos obtained from www.nbcnews.com and science.howstuffworks.com