

## **Lesson 3: Earth's Moon**



**The moon is  
Earth's only natural  
satellite.**

**A satellite is an  
object that orbits a  
planet.**

**Discovery Education  
Video:**

**[Space School: Moon](#)**

Describes the moon's origins, structure, and topography while highlighting Earth's unique relationship with its only natural satellite.



**Just as Earth revolves around the sun,  
the moon revolves around Earth.  
Earth's moon completes one revolution  
every 28 days.**





The surface of the moon is very different from the surface of Earth.

The moon's surface is dry and covered with craters – marks left when the moon was hit by objects from space.



Earth has an atmosphere – a layer of gasses that covers a planet.

The earth's atmosphere is over 200 miles thick. It helps to protect our planet and allows it to support life.



**Earth's moon has no atmosphere. Many objects from space have struck the moon causing many craters and shaping its surface.**

## **Earth's Moon: Key Questions**

- 1. What is a satellite? What is the difference between a natural and man-made satellite?**
- 2. How does the moon's movement through space compare to the movement of the earth?**
- 3. How would the moon's surface likely be different if it had an atmosphere like Earth's?**