

STGZ306

04/03 - 04/09

MOON PHASES: A REFRESHER

WHAT'S UP LUNAR LOOKERS – TRACE HERE: THE MOON IS OUR CLOSEST COMPANION IN THE SKY – BUT CAN STILL BE CONFUSING TO FOLLOW.

AS THE MOON ORBITS THE EARTH IT TRANSITIONS THROUGH PHASES CAUSED BY THE CONSTANT LIGHT OF THE SUN. LEMME SHOW YOU...

- (1) ON APRIL 6 IS A FULL MOON
- AFTER THAT WE PROGRESS THROUGH SEVERAL PHASES
- (2) WANING GIBBOUS
- (3) LAST QUARTER
- (4) WANING CRESCENT
- (5) NEW MOON :: A GREAT TIME FOR STARGAZING
- (6) WAXING CRESCENT
- (7) FIRST QUARTER
- (8) WAXING GIBBOUS
- (9) THEN BACK TO FULL!

IT TAKES THE MOON ABOUT A MONTH TO ORBIT THE EARTH, SO EVERY WEEK IT GOES A QUARTER OF THE WAY AROUND. WITH THE MNEMONIC LIGHT ON THE RIGHT: THE MOON IS GONNA GET BRIGHT YOU'LL ALWAYS KNOW WHAT PHASE IS COMING NEXT. THIS IS REALLY IMPORTANT FOR STAR GAZERS OF ANY LEVEL.

ONE MORE THING: WHILE YOU'RE ENJOYING THE FULL MOON THIS WEEK, LOOK FOR VENUS: THE EVENING STAR IN THE WEST JUST AFTER SUNSET.

KEEP LOOKING UP!