

Instructions for Making Moon Model

1. Place hula hoop on any temporary support, such as books or wooden blocks, at an approximate angle desired to illustrate the Moon's unusual orbit path. (Refer to Background Information.) At the lowest angle #1 should be placed. (This will indicate the beginning of a New Moon Phase.)
2. Using a four inch Styrofoam® ball, designate the North and South Poles with push pins. Using these two reference points, divide the ball in equal halves. Paint one side black, leaving the other side white. Let paint completely dry and remove the push pins.
3. Using the diameter of the ball, find the 'equator' and make an indentation completely around the ball. (Suggestion: Using a piece of yarn or heavy string will help keep the equator straight and can also help with making the initial indentation. To widen and deepen the indentation a pointed object is recommended.)
4. After making an indentation around the ball, paint the 'equator' with white paint on the black side of the ball and use black paint to continue the 'equator' on the white side of the ball.
5. Using a wooden skewer, color it red with either a permanent marker or paint with red. Approximately locate the Earth's 23° tilt and push the painted red wooden skewer through the ball to show Earth's tilt.
6. Place a wooden skewer with the pointed end inserted into the South Pole and punch the flat end of the skewer into the foam base in the center of the hula hoop.
7. Using a two inch Styrofoam® ball, divide the ball in equal halves, Paint one side black, leaving the other side white. Let paint completely dry and place a wooden skewer through the bottom, with the pointed end down.

