Moon Words to Know

Atmosphere all the gases which surround a star, like our Sun, or a planet, like our Earth.

Crater a hole caused by an object hitting the surface of a planet or moon.

Diameter the distance through a circle or sphere from one side to the other.

Eclipse the hiding or dimming of one celestial object by another object.

Gravity a mutual physical force attracting two bodies, influenced by the mass of the two objects and the distance between the two objects.

Lunar of, involving, caused by or affecting the moon; from the Latin word "luna", which means moon.

Mass the measure of the amount of matter in an object.

Meteor A shooting star or actually space debris that enters and burns up in earth's atmosphere.

Moon a small natural body which orbits a larger one. A natural satellite.

Moonrise the moon coming up over the horizon.

New moon the phase of the Moon when the Moon is lined up between the Earth and the Sun. We see the side of the Moon that is not being lit by the Sun.

Orbit the path followed by an object in space as it goes around another object; to travel around another object in a single path.

Phase the particular appearance of a body's state of illumination, such as the new, full or crescent phases of the Moon.

Revolve to move in an orbit or circle around something.

Rotate to turn around a center point, or axis, like a wheel turns on a bicycle.

Satellite a smaller body which revolves around a larger body; a natural or an artificial moon. Earth-orbiting spacecraft are called satellites.

Universe the huge space which contains all matter and energy.

Wane to decrease in size.

Wax to increase in size.