

FAIRBANKS MUSEUM & *planetarium*

Movements and Rhythms of the Heavens

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The following instructions represent additional resources for continued study of the topics covered in our "Movement and Rhythms of the Heavens" online class. All materials are the property of Planetarium Director and Senior Meteorologist Mark Breen who created them.

Moon Observing Project

The Moon is probably the easiest and most recognizable object in the night skies, but it is also the most changeable. It changes shape. It changes position. It changes its viewing time. With so many changes, there are many, many things to observe.

1. Look for the Moon when it is a Crescent in the evening skies. This happens once each month, so there are many opportunities. You can find potential dates by going here:

<https://www.almanac.com/astronomy/moon/calendar/zipcode/05819/2020-05#>

2. Keep a journal, either written, or a picture journal, or both. Make note of the location, time, and shape or phase of the Moon. It would be ideal to make your observations at the same time each night.

3. Do you remember the name of the constellation groups that the Moon travels through? When you observe the location of the Moon, see if you can identify the constellation it is in.

4. When the Moon is approximately 3 to 4 days past its New phase, look for the Crescent in the evening sky. Can you see *ALL* of the Moon? The dark, or night side of the Moon should be visible. Do you remember why? Go back to the video to help you remember.