



# The Moon Inside

Written by Sandra V. Feder  
Illustrated by Aimée Sicuro  
32 Pages • 9.25" x 9.25"  
9781554988235

## Crafts and Activities

Inspired by *The Moon Inside*, written by Sandra V. Feder and illustrated by Aimée Sicuro.

### About the Book

Yellow is Ella's favorite color — she loves the bright, sunny daytime. But every night, as darkness falls, she becomes afraid ... This gentle story encourages young children to see that nighttime can be something to look forward to rather than something to fear.

### About the Author

Sandra V. Feder is the author of the popular Daisy series of early chapter books. *The Moon Inside* is her first picture book. She has always found comfort in the sights and sounds of nature, and loves seeing the moon's light reflected on San Francisco Bay.

### About the Illustrator

Aimée Sicuro is an award-winning illustrator who recently published her first picture book, *Bright Sky, Starry City* by Uma Krishnaswami. She lives in Brooklyn with her husband and young son, who is currently afraid of the dark and ducks eating his toes at night.

# Shadow Puppets

Did you know it's as easy to make shadow puppets during the day as at night? Try your hand at making these simple shadow puppets, then see if you can spot the animals in the book!

## *Materials*

Light source (flashlight, lantern, sunlight)

Wall

Fingers

Use your fingers to create these simple shadow puppets, using either sunlight or a flashlight, depending on the time of day. Form the puppets between your light source and a wall to cast a shadow.



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For more information about *The Moon Inside* and Groundwood Books, visit [groundwoodbooks.com](http://groundwoodbooks.com).

# Lantern Art

Ella's favorite color is yellow because it reminds her of the sun. Use your favorite color to decorate your own lanterns to light up a room at night.

## *Materials*

- Newspaper or plastic tablecloth
- Glass jars (clean jam jars or baby food jars work well)
- Tissue paper
- White glue or Modge Podge
- Paintbrushes
- Battery-operated tea lights

1. Cover your work surface with the newspaper or plastic tablecloth.
2. Tear your tissue paper up into small pieces.
3. Mix some glue and a splash of water together in a small bowl.
4. Brush glue onto the jar and press on the tissue-paper scraps. Continue until the jar is completely covered.
5. Finish with a layer of glue over the whole jar.
6. Leave the jar to dry.
7. When night falls, turn on your battery-operated tea light and place it in the bottom of your jar.
8. Voilà! A colorful, homemade lantern that can double as a night-light.



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# Moon Dough

This fun and easy-to-make play dough looks like the surface of the moon and can be used to form moon rocks. The recipe can easily be scaled up.

## *Materials*

Newspaper or plastic tablecloth

2 cups baking soda

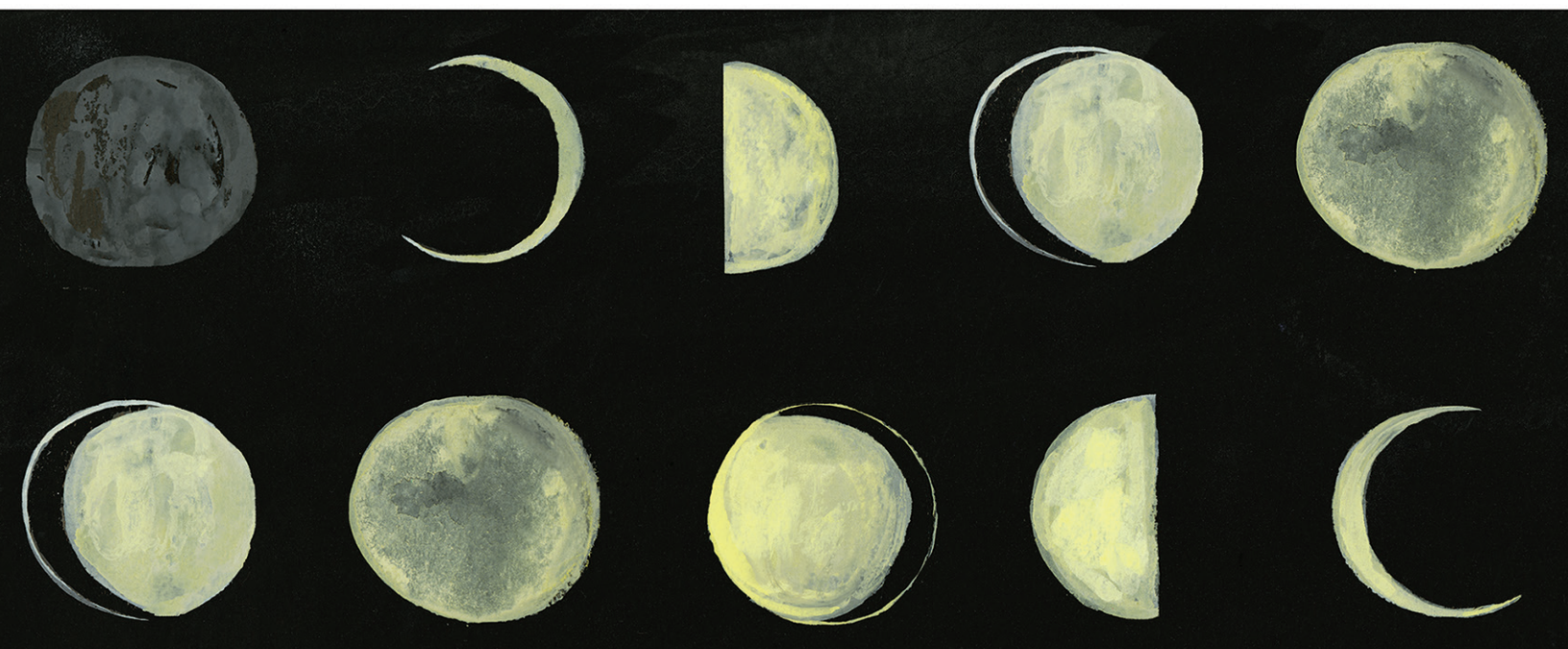
1/4 cup water

Black or silver glitter

Black liquid watercolor paint (optional — leave out for easier cleanup)

Vinegar (optional)

1. Cover your work surface with the newspaper or plastic tablecloth.
2. Put the baking soda in a large bowl or container.
3. Slowly add the water, mixing with your hands, just until the baking soda starts to stick together. Too much water will make the baking soda dissolve.
4. Add some black paint (if using) and glitter, and mix with your hands until it's the desired color.
5. Now it's time to play! Squish the dough between your fingers and form it into moon rocks.
6. When you're done playing, you can squirt your moon dough with vinegar to make it erupt. Alternately, the dough can be stored in an airtight container or resealable bag for future use. Little hands and clothes will get messy while playing with this dough, so remember to wash up!



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### ***The Moon Inside Discussion questions***

- Ask children about their favorite colors. Ask them to think about something in the natural world that is their favorite color.
- Go outside and have the children write down two things they hear and two things they see.
- What things do they hear and see at night that they can't see during the day?
- Have them write down their favorite thing about the night and their least favorite thing.
- Is the dark the least favorite thing for some? Ask children to share some other least favorite things.
- Discuss what could make them like the least favorite thing any better. Let other children offer suggestions.
- Talk about whether Ella was still afraid of the dark at the end of the story.
- Mention a fear you had as a child that you overcame.
- Share a favorite nighttime experience.
- Have children draw an image of themselves outside at night. Talk about what things they would see outdoors at night where they live. It might be an apartment building lit up, streetlights, the moon, or something else.
- Have them share their pictures with each other and describe how they're feeling in the picture. Ask them to compare that to how Ella was feeling at the beginning, in the middle, and at the end of the story.