Cut & Paste Moon Phases Activity

Name______________________________ Class_____

Directions:

1. Cut out the eight moon phases below. Be careful not to cut off the Questions on the back of this page!
2. Paste in the correct position.
3. Answer the Questions on the back.

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1. Moonlight comes from:

2. When the moon passes between the sun and the Earth, the side that faces the Earth is in darkness:
   a. This phase is called (#1):
   b. Since the new moon rises with the sun, it will be directly overhead at:
   c. We CAN see the moon very faintly during this phase because:

3. As the moon begins its journey around the Earth, the lighted side begins to grow larger, or **wax**.
   a. Give the name for phase (#2).
   b. When will it be directly overhead?

4. The moon’s cycle is approximately 28 days.
   a. How long will it take to go 1/4 of the way around the Earth?
   b. Name this phase (#3): 
   c. When will it be directly overhead?

5. The moon continues around the Earth. The lighted side continues to grow.
   a. Give the name for phase (#4) 
   b. When will it be directly overhead?

6. The moon, in 14 days, has moved 1/2 way around the Earth, and has gotten bigger, **waxed**. From the diagram, it looks like the moon would be in Earth’s shadow, yet the moon’s orbit is tilted just enough so this seldom happens.
   a. In this phase, (#5) what is the name?
   b. When is it directly overhead?

7. As the moon continues on its journey around the Earth, the portion we see will begin to grow smaller, or **wane**.
   a. Give the name for phase (#6).
   b. When is it directly overhead?

8. The moon is now 3/4 of the way around the Earth.
   a. What is this phase called (#7)?
   b. When is it directly overhead?
   c. How long has it taken for the moon to travel this far?

9. The moon continues to grow smaller, **wane**.
   a. What is the name of phase (#8)?
   b. When will it be directly overhead?

10. The moon now moves back into the new moon phase. (1)
    a. How long did it take for the moon to travel all the way around the Earth?
    b. If you were on the moon, would you see phases of the Earth?
    c. Would they be the same as moon phases?