

# Storytime Activity Guide

## *Baby Loves Lunar Phases on Chinese New Year*

written by Ruth Spiro and illustrated by Irene Chan

Baby watches the moon while waiting for the lunar new year.

### Did you know?

Nature provides a rich and engaging learning environment that supports children's understanding of science concepts. The sun, moon, and stars provide excellent opportunities for teaching children about science. Children can observe and learn about their characteristics, movements, and patterns. While reading *Baby Loves Lunar Phases on Chinese New Year*, you and your child can observe and learn about the different moon shapes and sizes at the various phases.

\* Some nights Baby can see the entire bright half of the moon.



The moon appears full and round in the sky.

### Words to Practice

lunar  
orbits  
half  
round  
phases

### Talk about it!

While sharing *Baby Loves Lunar Phases on Chinese New Year* ask your child:

- What shape is the moon tonight?
- What else do you see in the sky at night?
- What do you see in the sky during the day? Are they the same or different?
- Why do you think the moon seems to change shape each night?

### Find More Online

Scan this QR code for more free resources.



[qrco.de/BabyLunar](http://qrco.de/BabyLunar)

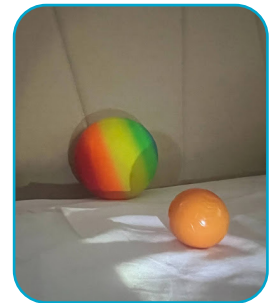
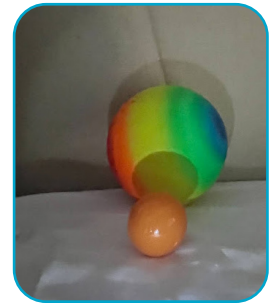
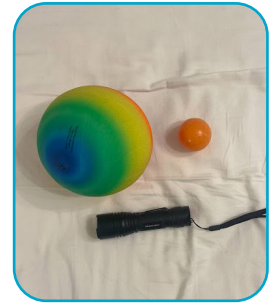
## Explore!

Use a flashlight and two small balls or other small objects to observe the changing shapes of the shadows as the objects move.

### Materials needed:

- source of light, such as a flashlight or lamp
- 2 balls or round objects - 1 larger than the other

1. Place the smaller object in front of the larger object
2. Use your light source to shine the light directly in front of the smaller object
3. Observe the shadow of the smaller object on the larger object
4. Slowly move the light from side to side, stopping at various points to observe the change in shape and size of the shadow
5. Ask your child why they think the shadow is changing?



**Bonus activity:** Place a see through object, such as a sheet or light scarf in front of your light source and talk about the changes that it makes to the size and shapes of the shadows.

### Play: Lunar Phase Observation

In the evening, look out your window or go outside to look for the moon. Observe the shape of the moon with your child. Encourage your child to draw a picture of what they saw. Repeat this over the next few days and observe the changes in the size and shape of the moon. You can also observe the changes in the drawings over time to see the lunar phases!

It's almost Chinese New Year, Baby!  
What is Chinese New Year?

