

MOON MAN

Moon Man

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Themes: Fantasy/Imagination

Grade Level: K-3

Running Time: 8 minutes, animated

Summary

Moon Man is the story of the man in the moon, who becomes bored with his lonely existence in space. He longs to join the activity of the people he sees on earth from his place high in the sky.

When this opportunity presents itself, the man in the moon's fiery arrival brings multitudes of government officials and curiosity seekers hurrying to the sight of the landing. He is considered to be an invader and is sent to jail.

The man in the moon escapes and finds himself in a castle where a scientist is building a rocket that will fly to the moon. As the scientist cannot fit inside the capsule, they agree that the man in the moon will make the trip. The story ends with the scientist fulfilling his dreams and receiving accolades for his work, and the man in the moon returning safely home.

Objectives

- Children will learn about the phases of the moon
- Children will explore loneliness
- Children will talk about being different

Before Viewing Activities

Share the book Moon Man with children.

Then ask: What would you have wanted to ask the man in the moon if you saw him fly to earth?

What do you think it might be like to live on the moon? What would you do for fun? If you lived on the moon, what would you miss most about living on earth? Explain to children that the film they are about to see, MOON MAN, is the story of the "man in the moon." Encourage children to pay close attention to the reasons the man in the moon wants to leave his home. Later, ask: Do you think the man in the moon's reasons for wanting to come to earth were good ones? Why? Why not?

Talk with children about the different phases of the moon. Provide photographs that children can examine to observe the differences between each phase. Ask: Have you ever seen the moon? What did it look like? If you could catch the moon and bring it back to earth, what would you do with it?

After Viewing Activities

Provide each child with a piece of black construction paper to represent the night sky, white construction paper cut into a circular shape to represent the moon, crayons, and paste. Have children paste the circle onto the black construction paper to represent the moon in the night sky. Then have children use the crayons to create their own versions of the man/woman in the moon. When children have completed their artwork, have them construct short

stories about the adventures of their "man/woman in the moon."

Talk with children about the different ways the man in the moon solved each problem he was confronted with. Ask: What did the man in the moon do when he wanted to take a trip to earth? How did he get out of jail? How did he help the scientist solve his problem of getting the rocket to the moon? Then ask: What would you do if you were alone, far from home, and needed to find your way home? What would you do if you were playing hide and seek outdoors and couldn't find a place to hide? What would you do if a friend was having trouble finishing a project? As children discuss these questions, help them understand that most problems have more than one solution.

Take a walk outdoors with children and have them look up at the sky. Talk about the different things children see. Ask: What do the clouds look like to you? Do you see any movement? What appears to be moving? What colors do you see? How does the sky look different from the way it appears at night? What do you see when you look up at the sky in the evening? Encourage children to take the time to notice what is above their heads and down at their feet as well as things they see at eye-level.

Other book based films and videos about the moon are available from Weston Woods. These include: HAPPY BIRTHDAY, MOON by Frank Asch
OWL MOON written by Jane Yolen and illustrated by John Schoenherr

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