

SKY PATTERNS



EARTH & SPACE SCIENCE READER



READING

1

OUR SHARED SKY p.1

Discussion Questions:

1. What objects did the three people see in the sky?
2. What surprised Layla?



READING

2

WHEN THE SUN GOES DOWN p.9

Discussion Questions:

1. What did people do when it got dark before there were lights?
2. How did light bulbs change people's lives?
3. What do you do after dark?



READING

3

PAINT ME THE MOON p.17

Discussion Questions:

1. What are the different shapes of the Moon?
2. Why do you think people paint the Moon?



READING

4

LIGHT SEEKERS AND NIGHT HUNTERS p.25

Discussion Questions:

1. How do some plants react to the Sun's light each day?
2. Why do some animals stay awake at night?



READING

5

FOLKTALE: HOW THE SUN WAS RESCUED p.36

Discussion Questions:

1. Why are folktales shared?
2. What can we learn from this folktale?



READING

6

RANCH LIFE p.45

Discussion Questions:

1. How did the sunlight change over the seasons?
2. What would less sunlight mean for work on the ranch?



READING

7

PLEASE STAY, SUN p.54

Discussion Question:

1. Why did the people in the story do special things for the Sun?

Smithsonian Science Stories: Grade 1 Earth Science *Sky Patterns*—Discussion questions with anticipated response

“Our Shared Sky”

1. What objects did the three people see in the sky? (Oksana saw the Sun. Issa saw the stars and the Sun. Layla saw the Moon.)
2. What surprised Layla? (Sometimes she could see the moon in the daytime.)

“When the Sun Goes Down”

1. What did people do when it got dark before there were lights? (They told stories. They played games. They went to bed. They used candles or oil lamps to see things.)
2. How did light bulbs change people’s lives? (People could do more after dark.)
3. What do you do after dark? (I watch TV, I play video games, I make food, I read books.)

“Paint Me the Moon”

1. What are the different shapes of the Moon? (A circle, a half circle, a crescent, a gibbous.)
2. Why do you think people paint the Moon? (To show the different shapes, to show nighttime.)

“Light Seekers and Night Hunters”

1. How do some plants react to the Sun’s light each day? (They open up, they close, they turn to face the Sun.)
2. Why do some animals stay awake at night? (They hunt and catch food in the dark.)

“Folktale: How the Sun was Rescued”

1. Why are folktales shared? (People want to share and learn legends from their culture.)
2. What can we learn from this folktale? (The one who rescued the Sun had to be able to help everyone.)

“Ranch Life”

1. How did the sunlight change over the seasons? (There was bright sunlight for a lot of the day in the summer. There was less sunlight in the fall and winter. There is more sunlight again in the spring.)
2. What would less sunlight mean for work on the ranch? (More work could be done in the summer with more sunlight. People would need to plan ahead for less sunlight in the fall and winter.)

“Please Stay, Sun”

1. Why did the people in the story do special things for the Sun? (The Sun is important to them. They did not want the Sun to go away.)