

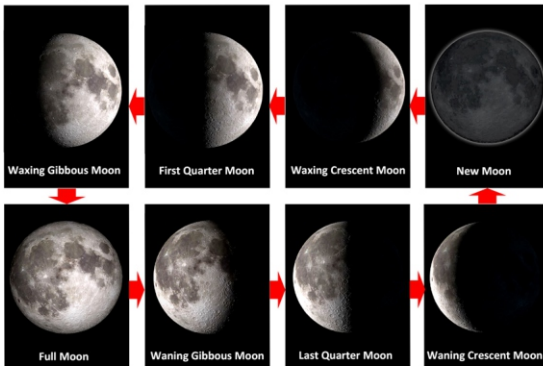
## May - Week 5

## Names of Full Moons

Throughout time, people of many cultures have named the full moons as they progress through the seasons. These names are based on important natural or human happenings at specific times of the year. For example, Ojibwe people have named spring full moons the 'Maple Sap Boiling Moon' in April followed by the 'Leafing Out Moon' in May. Lakota people have named spring full moons the 'Fattening Moon' in April followed by the 'Planting Moon' in May. These names remind people of the timing of important events in the annual cycle of changes brought by the seasons.

In your journal, sketch the main moon phases in May, recording the date of each phase. The main moon phases include: New Moon, First Quarter Moon, Full Moon, and Last Quarter Moon. Other intermediate phases are named as well, so include those as you see fit. Depending on the lunar cycle, the full moon may occur at the beginning, middle, or end of the month. What date does the full moon occur in May this year? Why do you think the full moon is the phase that groups of people have given names to? Why is a full moon important?

On your journal page, brainstorm a list of natural events that happen in May. Think about the climate, the plants, the animals, and things people do in response to these seasonal changes. Choose an important natural event from your list and create your own name for the May full moon. Why would you rename the full moon in May this name? If possible, talk with a small group to share your new full moon name and hear other people's ideas.



Moon phases, in order.