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# When The Moon Is Full: A Lunar Year



## Synopsis

This lunar guide describes the folkloric names of twelve moons according to Native American tradition and showcases their defining characteristics in short verse and beautifully detailed hand-colored woodcuts. A question-and-answer section includes information about the moon's surface, an explanation of a lunar eclipse, and the true meaning of a blue moon.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 490L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Little, Brown Young Readers; 1 edition (September 1, 2001)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0316713171

ISBN-13: 978-0316713177

Product Dimensions: 10.2 x 0.4 x 10.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (12 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #716,929 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #53 in [Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > United States](#) #391 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Astronomy & Space > Astronomy](#) #480 in [Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Multicultural Stories > Native North & South Americans](#)

Age Range: 1 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

"Full moons come,/full moons go,/softening nights/with their silver glow./They pass in silence,/all untamed,/but as they travel,/they are named." Native Americans named each full moon after a special characteristic that the month brought. For instance, January was the Wolf Moon, because they believed wolves became restless in January, May was the Flower Moon, because that is when many flowers bloom, and October was the Hunter's Moon, because the moon rises early adding to the light of the setting sun and giving hunters extra time to hunt. Penny Pollack and Mary Azarian have authored a beautiful yearful of poetry, detailing the wonders and glories of the moon. Ms Pollacks gentle, quiet, original verses are eloquent and lyrical, and include the name of the month, the unique Native American moon name, and a simple explanation of the moon name. Ms Azarian's hand-painted woodcut illustrations of gorgeous nature scenes bathed in moonlight are evocative

and offer a feast for the eyes. Perfect for youngsters 4-8, When The Moon Is Full includes an informative and entertaining two page spread of questions and answers about the moon, and is a lovely bedtime book the entire family can share and enjoy together.

Each two page spread has a picture, the moon's name (Native American), a short poem and a short fact about the moon. At the end of the 12 months, there is a Q and A section about blue moons and why the moon changes shapes. A very kid friendly book about the different times of year.

I bought this book because my 2 year old LOVES the moon. It's educational, learning about Native American lore, and is very beautifully illustrated, capturing his attention easily. The poems are short and have a comfortable lilt making reading this book aloud a pleasure. I look forward to enjoying this book for many years as it will appeal to kids in a large age range.

I teach art to children and for one art project, I read this book aloud to them before they made clay "full moon" rattles. I got this idea from an art teacher's blog [...] and was so impressed by the photos of her children's artwork that I purchased the book from .The book has a picture and a story for each month's full moon. The children were fascinated that each month's moon had a special name. Of course, each child was especially interested in the full moon for their birthday month! Then we did an art project where each child made two identical clay pinch pots, and before sealing them together, they added small clay "beads" or balls (to make a rattle). We then sealed the two pinch pots together, and poked some holes for air release. The children decorated each rattle ball by attaching moist clay pieces and/or carving into the clay. After firing, we sponged them with metallic paint (bronze, silver, and/or gold) and the rattles looked (and sounded) wonderful. So now each one child has a clay moon rattle. Some of the children say that they go outside during the full moon & shake their rattle at the moon!!Sorry that this was more of a writeup about an art project, however it was this book that inspired the project!

This is a beautifully illustrated book with poetry, usually 8 lines of poetry per small section, poetry which rhymes every alternating line. some of the artwork, especially the winter scenes, is out of this world, sharp and beautiful. The American Indian, Native American, terminology for the 12 full moons of the year, are used as a framework for this educational children's poetry book. While the book's framework is based on the Native American terminology, the illustrations are simply of the natural beauty found in non-developed America, as would have been the case when Native Americans or

early American settlers were here. A questions and answers section in the back provides some very basic facts about the moon for children, as well as a couple of questions about the blue moon... who knew? a blue moon is considered to be when the year has an extra full moon, or 4 full moons in one season, which takes place only once every 2 years and 9 months (the blue moon is not blue, though, but silvery grey, even as the other moons).

I am a big fan of Mary Azarian's art and this book is just beautiful. Although it is a children's book, the pictures and stories suit any age.

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