Our Moon

Read the passage. Then answer the questions in full sentences.

Name _____ Date _____

The Moon travels around Earth. One full trip takes about 27 days. The Moon also spins as it goes, and one spin takes the same 27 days. Because the trip and the spin take the same time, the same side of the Moon always faces Earth. From here, we only ever see that one side.

The Moon is much smaller than Earth. It is less than a third as wide. If Earth were the size of a nickel, the Moon would be about as big as a coffee bean.

The Moon has almost no air. What little it has is so thin that no one could breathe it.

The ground on the Moon is solid rock, covered in holes called craters. Asteroids, meteorites and comets made them when they crashed into the Moon.

1. **How long does the Moon take to go once around Earth?**

2. **What made the craters on the Moon?**

3. **Why do we only ever see one side of the Moon?**

4. **If Earth were a nickel, the Moon would be a coffee bean. What does that tell you about the Moon?**

Answer key

Our Moon

1. How long does the Moon take to go once around Earth?
   About 27 days.

2. What made the craters on the Moon?
   Asteroids, meteorites and comets crashing into it.

3. Why do we only ever see one side of the Moon?
   Because the Moon spins once in the same time it takes to go around Earth, so the same side always faces us.

4. If Earth were a nickel, the Moon would be a coffee bean. What does that tell you about the Moon?
   Sample answer: that the Moon is much smaller than Earth, less than a third as wide.