

## Recipe for a Moon

The Moon is proposed to have formed when an object - about half the size of Earth - struck the Earth early in its formation and broke off chunks of the Earth. Over time those chunks clumped together to form the Moon. The Moon has a core, mantle and crust just like Earth. The Moon's core is much smaller than Earth's, though. Also, the Moon's crust is thicker.

In this activity, you and your child will create an edible model of the Moon.

### What You Need:

- 1 Rice Krispie Treat (mantle)
- ½ small marshmallow (core)
- Zip-loc baggie with chocolate Teddy Grahams and powdered sugar (crust)
- Rubber mallet
- Icing (crust)
- 1 spoon
- 1 cardboard plate
- Wet wipes or damp paper towels



### What to Do:

- Eat one half of the small marshmallow, leaving half for the Moon.
- Open up the Rice Krispie Treat and place half of the small marshmallow (tell your child that this will be the Moon's core) in the middle of the treat. Gently wrap the treat (the Moon's mantle) around it. Form it into a ball, rolling it around to make it firm. Ask your child to compare the size of the mantle and core.
- With the mallet, crush the Teddy Grahams until they are crumbs, and work the crumbs and powdered sugar together until the color turns gray.
- Cover the Rice Krispie's Treat with a thick coat of icing and then roll it in the cracker and powdered sugar mix. Together, the icing, sugar, and crumbs will make the Moon's crust.
- Create craters in the crust using your fingers.
- Examine the model and then invite your child to eat their "Moon!"

### Parent Prompts:

Which part of the Moon is in the center? [The core.]

What is on the outside of the Moon? [Your child may answer crater or crust.]

What is between the crust of the Moon and its core? [The Moon's rocky mantle.]