



On International Observe the Moon Night, everyone on Earth is invited to learn about lunar science and exploration, take part in celestial observations, and honor cultural and personal connections to the Moon.

**Join the Global Celebration!**

- Look at the moon
- Watch Moon Videos
- Create Moon-inspired art
- Start a Moon observation journal
- Listen to Moon-themed music

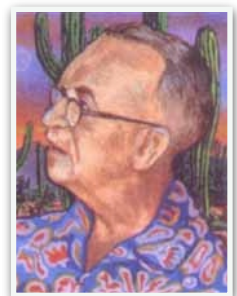
[moon.nasa.gov/observe](https://moon.nasa.gov/observe)

**Daily Moon Guide:**

<https://moon.nasa.gov/moon-observation/daily-moon-guide/>

*Here in Arizona, the famous naturalist-philosopher Joseph Wood Krutch offered us some guidance way back in 1952 on how to observe the moon, taken from his own experience when he first moved to the Sonoran Desert from the East Coast. His message shows how something like “Observe the Moon Night” can help us do something we might not otherwise think of doing!*

“On one of my first nights a slender new moon was declining toward the west as the sun sank; for nearly two weeks thereafter I did what I have never done before—watched the moon every night as it grew from the first silvery sliver to its full, round glory. This is an ideal spot for such an enterprise and I suppose that fact tempted me to it, but I was astonished to realize that I had never undertaken it before and astonished at how beautiful and how strange it seemed when one took the trouble to be really aware of what was happening.



“Every night my moon was about an hour later reaching a given place in the heavens; every night, very noticeably larger; and every night, revealing, through field glasses, more and more of those pits—once called volcanoes but now usually taken for meteor craters— which mark her mysterious surface. One need spend only ten minutes a night to see the show, but one should not miss a phase.

“On the first evening, the moon offers little competition to the stars; soon, she is indisputably queen of the night. First the milky way yields, then the stars begin to fail one by one, and at the full she has the great bowl almost to herself.

“Wondering that I had never really observed these things before I was led to wonder further just how many of the obvious phenomena of the sky I should ever have noticed for myself if no one had ever called my attention to them. I am not sure that I should ever have been more than casually aware that the moon was sometimes present and sometimes absent, sometimes crescent and sometimes round. I am not sure that I or—not to be overmodest—most of the people of my acquaintance, would ever have even counted the days of its cycle.”

- Excerpted from *The Desert Year* by Joseph Wood Krutch (1954)

Learn More About Joseph Wood Krutch here: <https://planetpatriot.net/joseph-wood-krutch/>