

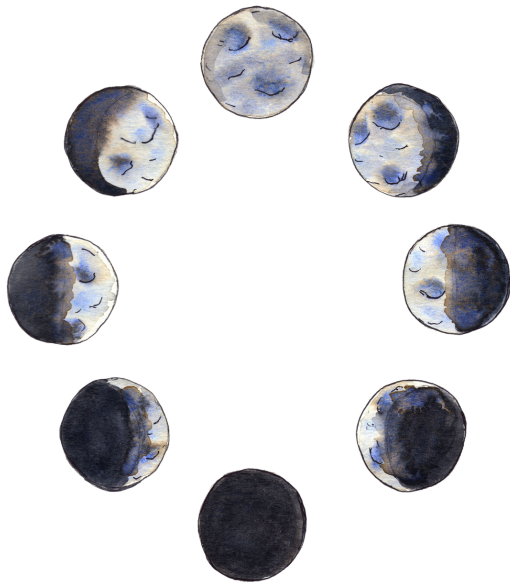
LILY & THISTLE



NATURE'S ART CLUB

# Moon Phases and Snowdrops

## Watercolor Painting and Educational Packet



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*All materials in this course are the exclusive original works of Lily and Thistle, LLC, except as otherwise designated.*

# Supply List for Nature's Art Club

You will be using the same basic set of supplies for each painting every month. You can easily find these supplies on Amazon, Blick Art, or at your local arts and crafts stores. Below is a list of these supplies:

- Canson Watercolor Paper pad (size 9x12)
- Winsor & Newman Cotman Sketcher's Pocket Box Set
- Round Brush Set (we will mainly use size 2 and size 6)
- *Waterproof* Black Pen to use for outlining (if desired)
- White Gel Pen for highlighting (if desired)
- Pencil
- Paper Towel
- Water
- Graphite Paper (optional if you plan to trace not using your windows or a light box)

**Kid-friendly options for younger artists.** Most younger children naturally aren't as careful with paint (which can be a bit stressful!) so washable, less expensive, and mess-free options are what we had in mind with these supplies:

- Watercolor Brush Pens
- Washable Watercolor Paint set
- Card stock paper for printing outline (size 8.5 x 11)
- Crayons (to use with the coloring pages for kids who don't want to paint or to avoid the paint mess for the day)
- Tray (or cookie sheet) to keep art in one place

[Check out this page for links to all items listed above on Amazon.](#)

## **Tips for keeping your supplies organized and ready to use:**

- Keep everything in one place. Use a basket or a bin to hold all of your papers, paints, brushes, pens, water cups, paper towels, etc.
- If each person has their own paint and brushes, consider keeping each person's supplies in a Ziploc gallon bag. It will make it easy to gather and put away supplies, plus it's easy for grab-and-go if you decide to venture outside.



# How to Paint **SNOWDROPS** Step-by-Step Guide



Gather your supplies and trace your snowdrops onto your watercolor paper. You can use a window and trace it with a pencil or use graphite paper. You will need your Round Brush Size 6 for this painting. Let's start by blocking in all of the leaves and stems with Sap Green (light green).



Now using your ultramarine blue (light blue) and a lot of water gently put in the shadows of your snowdrops. Leave everything else white.



Next, with a clean, dry brush, go over your blue painted lines and with a fanning motion, move the paint around. This should remove some of the paint that you can wipe on your paper towel.



Now using the same ultramarine blue and plenty of water, paint the areas around your snowdrops. Don't worry about making them even it is the winter sky so some areas can be lighter than others.



Using some of your blue make some lines in the white snow below your snowdrops.



Now that your green is dry, come in with a second coat just in the areas where there are shadows.

# SNOWDROPS

continued...

7.



After your painting is completely dry, you can choose to outline everything with a fine tip, waterproof pen. I like the No Bleed Sharpie pen.

8.



And you're done! Now hang it up or share it with someone you love.

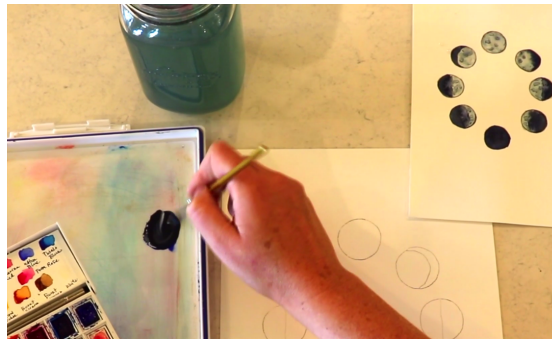
# How to Paint **MOON PHASES** Step-by-Step Guide

1.



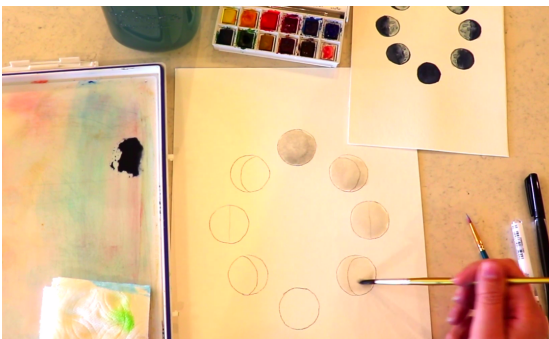
Gather your supplies and trace your moon phases onto your watercolor paper. You can use a window or light box and trace it with a pencil or use graphite paper. You will need a Round Brush Size 6 for this project.

2.



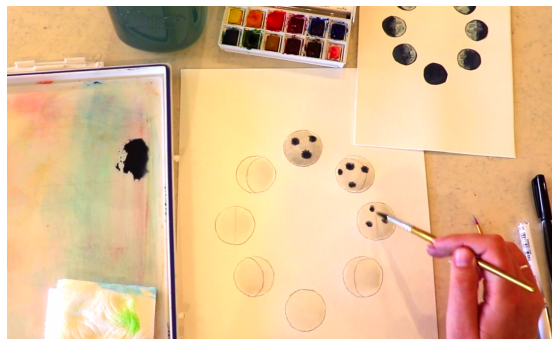
We will only be using two colors on this project. Intense blue (darker blue) and burnt umber (darker brown). Let's start by mixing these two colors to make a nice black.

3.



After you've mixed your black, wash out your brush and then use some of the (dirty) water to block in all of your moon circles.

4.



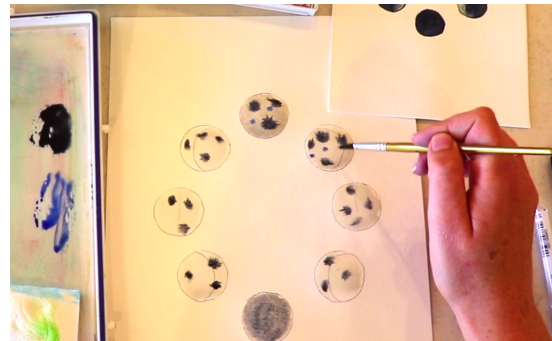
Now I'm going to show you a cool trick. It is called the wet-on-wet technique and we will be letting the watercolor BLOOM. While your circles are still wet, dab just a few dots on each of your moons and just leave them alone to move and grow.

5.



On your "new moon" you can just lightly color that in. We'll do another layer of black on that later.

6.

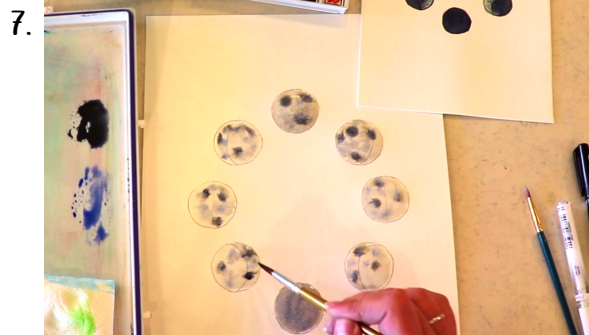


Now at just a few tiny dots of intense blue and let them bloom too.



# MOON PHASES

continued...



Next, with a dry brush, move the paint/water around just a bit to make your dots look more like moon craters. Don't move them so much that they just turn into grey blobs. Just a little bit. Now let it all dry for about 5 minutes.



Once all of the paint is dry, come in with your black paint and color in your dark areas. Use your reference sheet as a guide for this.



Once you are finished filling in the dark areas, with a clean, wet brush, just dab the edges of each dark area and let the paint bloom again. This will make your edges look very natural.



After your painting is completely dry, you can choose to outline everything with a fine tip, waterproof pen. I like the No Bleed Sharpie pen.



And you are finished! If you'd like you can label each phase of the moon to have for future reference. Now tonight look outside and see what phase the moon is at!



# Watercolor Outline and Reference Photo

Included you will find a watercolor reference photo of the final painting. You can use this as inspiration or as a guide as you paint. Remember that your painting doesn't have to look like mine. You can add different colors, details, backgrounds, etc.! Just have fun with it. Know before you start that you will have good painting days and days that you just can't seem to "get it". This is normal and part of the learning process. Embrace your mistakes and keep going!

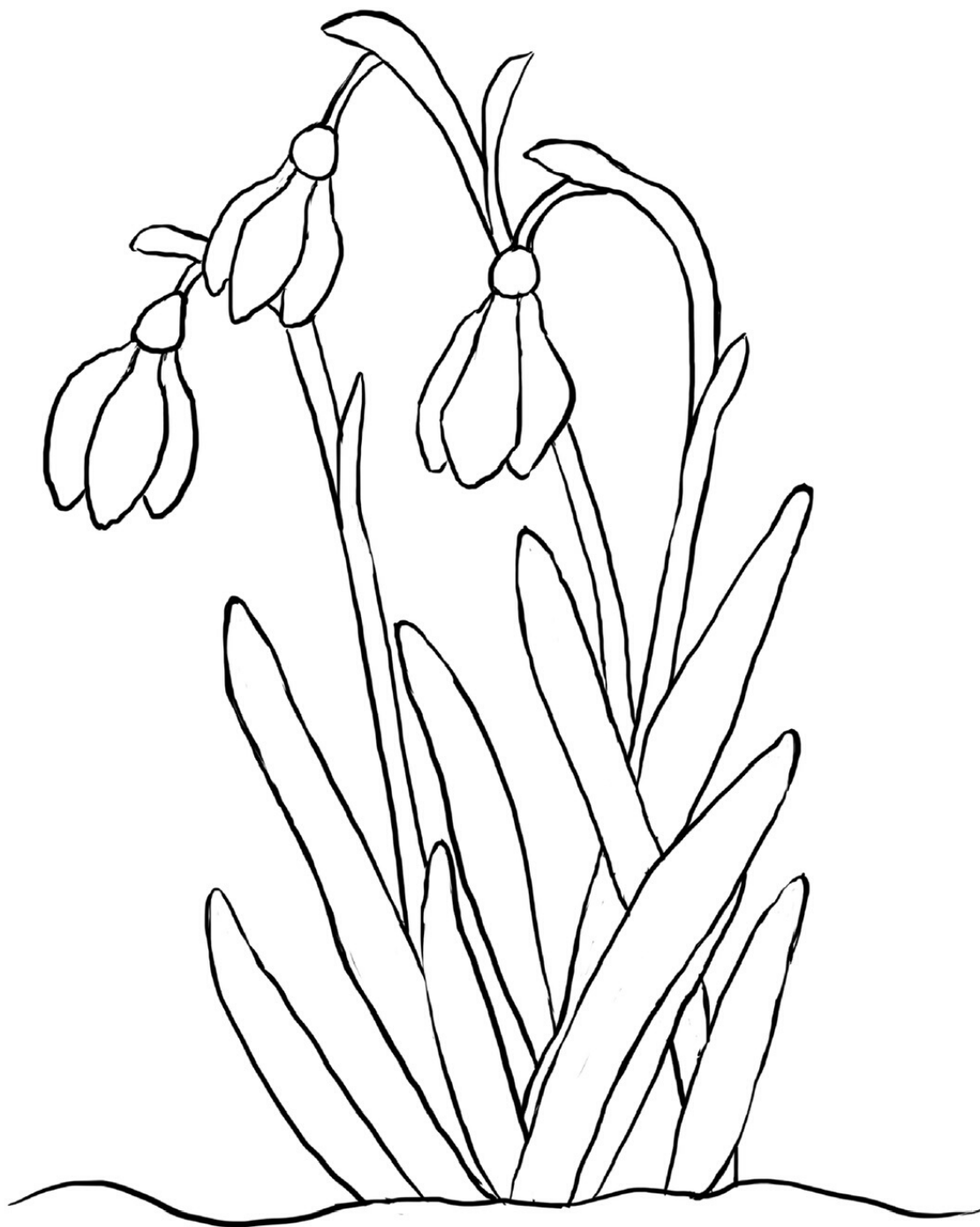
Also included on the following page is a watercolor outline that you can use as a guide to either sketch the project yourself or to trace using a light board or the nearest window! Not sure how to do this? Just tape your outline to any window during the day, lay your watercolor paper over it and trace away! You can also purchase a light board or download the Softbox app for your iPad (I use the white setting).



## Coloring Pages

We've included coloring pages of each natural friend we will be studying this month. If you aren't up to painting or have a child who isn't quite ready to paint, print the coloring pages and have some fun! Coloring is therapeutic for everyone! Don't forget to share with us on the **Nature's Art Club Private Facebook Group!** We'd love to see what you're working on!

# WATERCOLOR OUTLINE



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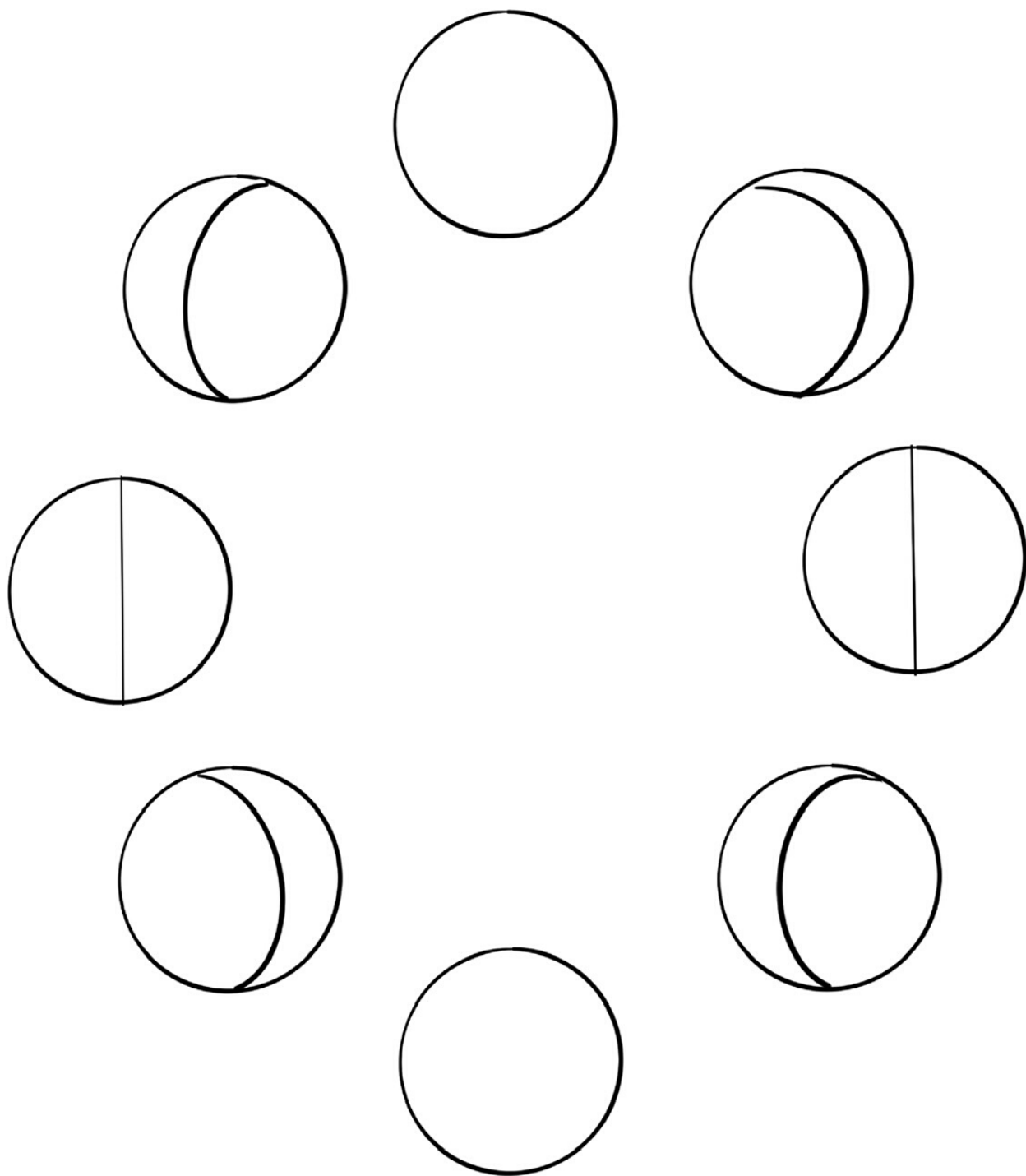
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# WATERCOLOR OUTLINE

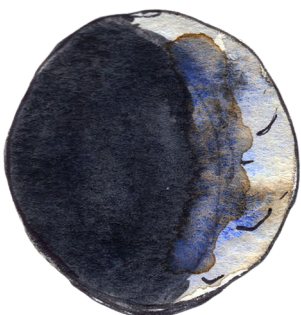
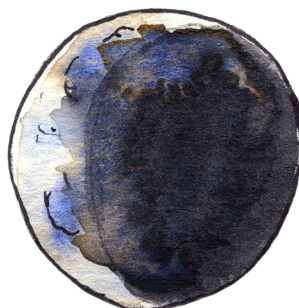
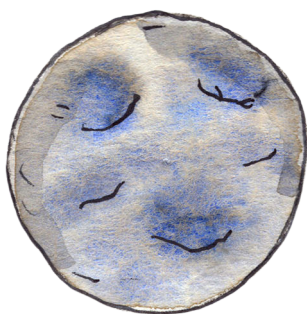


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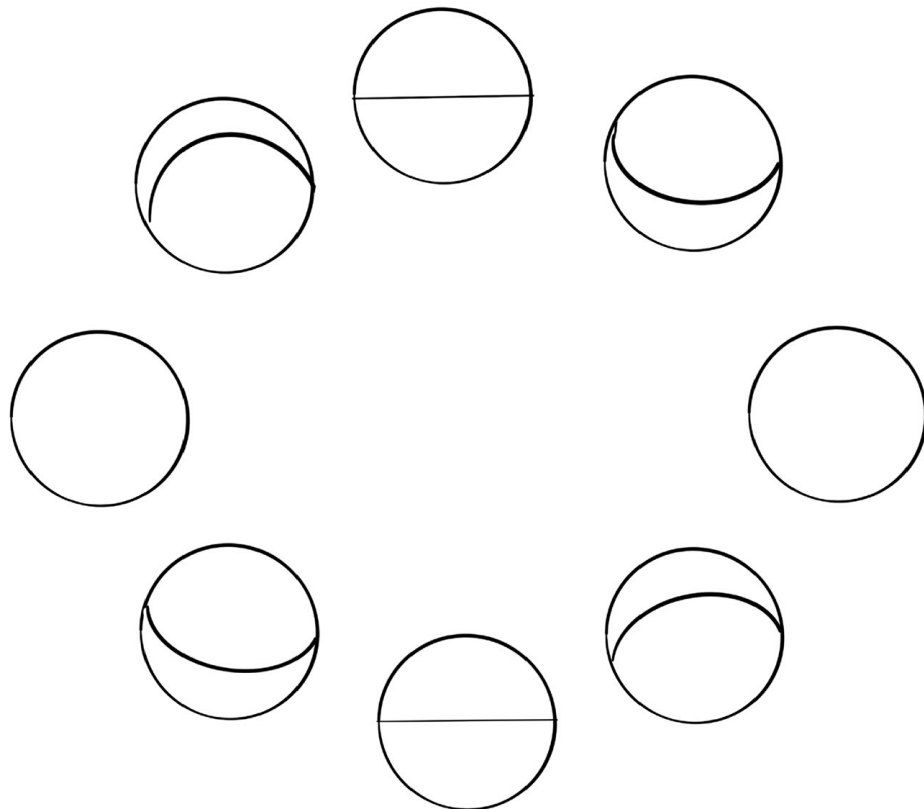
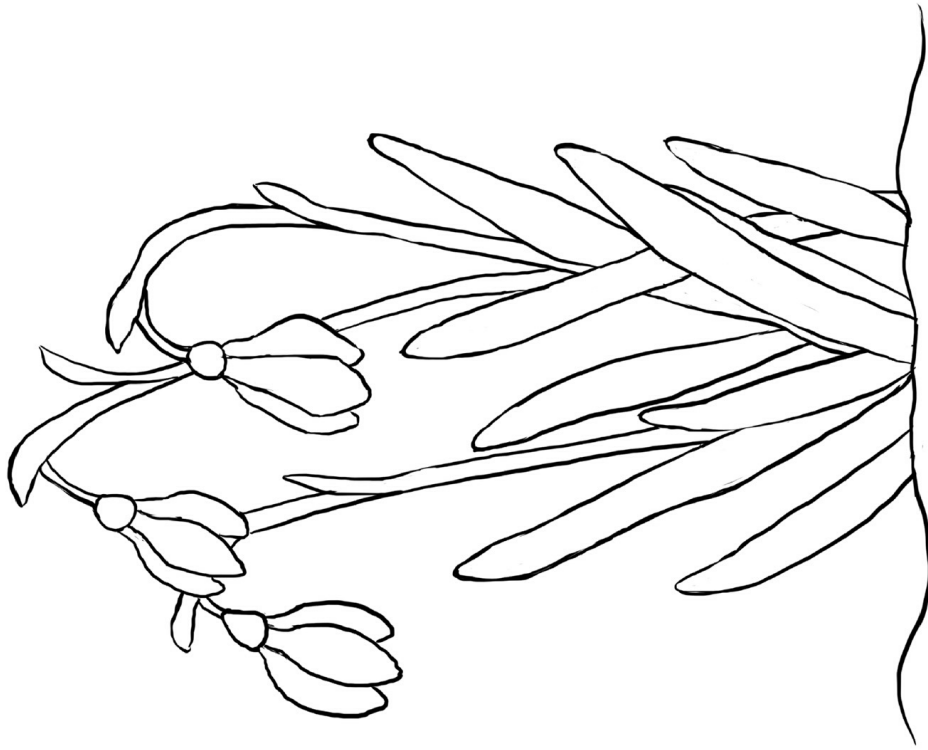


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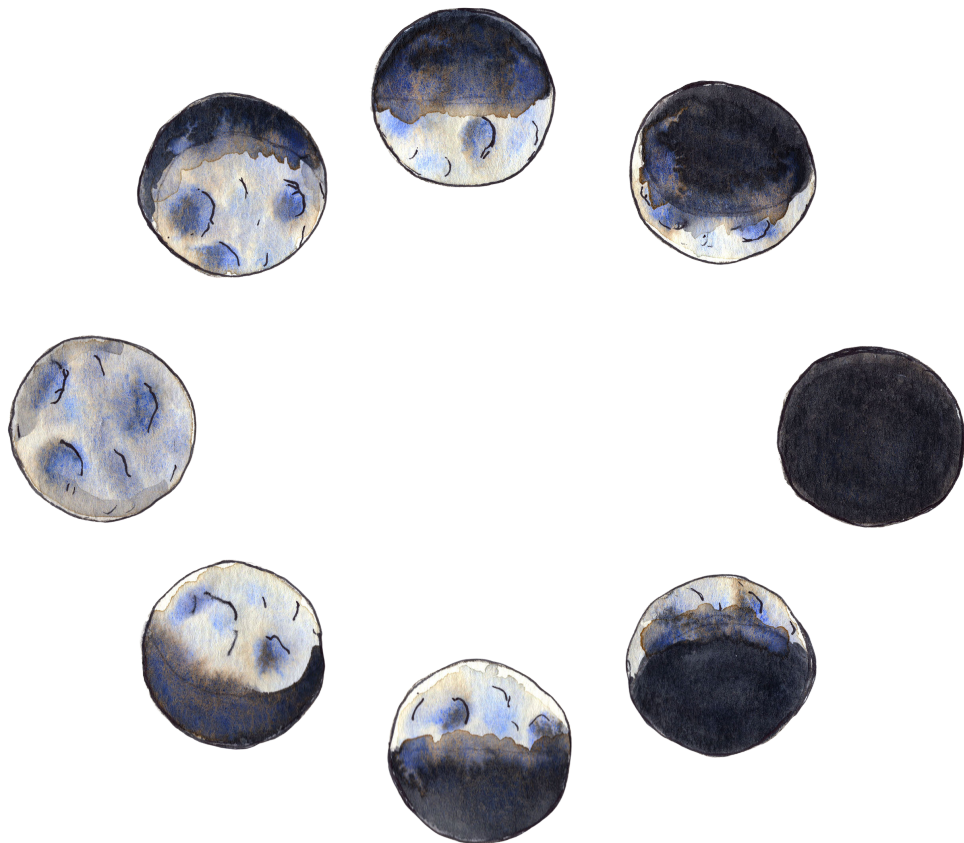
# WATERCOLOR OUTLINES



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# SNOWDROPS



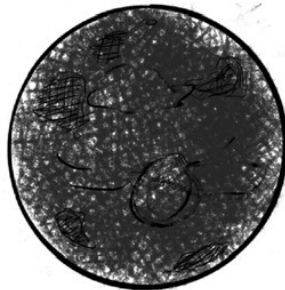
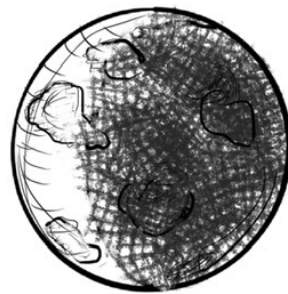
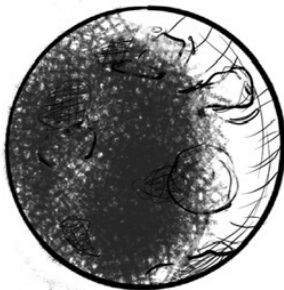
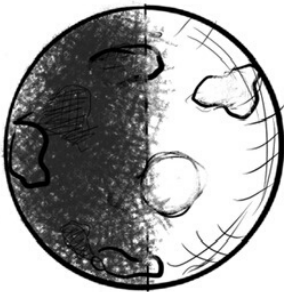
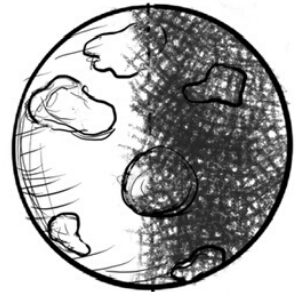
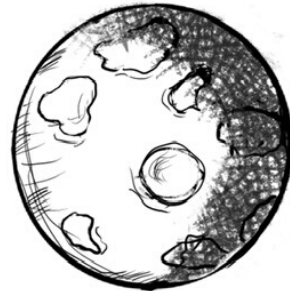
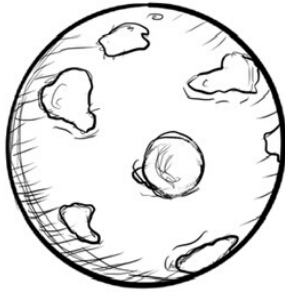
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# MOON PHASES



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# Did You Know?

## FUN FACTS ABOUT SNOWDROPS

- It's Greek name 'Galanthus', is translated as the 'milk flower'. Known by several different names, it was officially named the Galanthus in 1753, by the Swedish botanist Carl Linnaeus.
- Snowdrops are known as "the first flower of the year". In the northern hemisphere snowdrops can be seen appearing as early as January, weather permitting. They usually flower between the months of January and April and can even grow through snow on the ground.
- They are symbolic of hope, purity, and religion. Hope because they give hope of spring. Purity for their beautiful white buds, and the three petals of the flower for many, symbolize the Holy Trinity.
- "Galanthophiles" is the name given to those who love snowdrops. They even have conventions where galanthophiles can buy bulbs and learn about different varieties.
- For many Victorians, a single snowdrop signified death and they considered it bad luck to bring one into the home. This could be, in part, due to the bulb of a snowdrop being highly poisonous if eaten.
- There are more than 2,500 varieties of Snowdrop. They vary in height from 2.5 inches to a foot and are divided into approximately 20 species.
- Snowdrops were named after earrings that women wore in the 15th, 16th, and 17th century.

## FUN FACTS ABOUT MOON PHASES

There are 8 phases that the moon goes through. If you'd like, you can identify and label each phase on your painting or coloring page:

- A new moon is when the Moon cannot be seen. This is when we are looking at the unlit half of the Moon. The new moon phase occurs when the Moon is directly between the Earth and Sun.
- A waxing crescent moon is when the Moon looks like a crescent and the crescent increases ("waxes") in size from one day to the next. This phase is usually only seen in the western part of the world.
- The first quarter moon (or a half moon) is when half of the lit portion of the Moon is visible after the waxing crescent phase.
- A waxing gibbous moon occurs when more than half of the lit portion of the Moon can be seen and the shape increases ("waxes") in size from one day to the next. The waxing gibbous phase occurs between the first quarter and full moon phases.
- A full moon is when we can see the entire lit portion of the Moon. The full moon phase occurs when the Moon is on the opposite side of the Earth from the Sun, called opposition.
- A waning gibbous moon occurs when more than half of the lit portion of the Moon can be seen and the shape decreases ("wanes") in size from one day to the next. The waning gibbous phase occurs between the full moon and third quarter phases.
- The last quarter moon (or a half moon) is when half of the lit portion of the Moon is visible after the waning gibbous phase.
- A waning crescent moon is when the Moon looks like the crescent and the crescent decreases ("wanes") in size from one day to the next.
- A second full moon in one calendar month is usually called a "blue moon" and this occurs approximately every 3 years. The saying "Once in a blue moon" refers to something that doesn't happen often (like a blue moon.)

Sources:

<http://grimsdyke.com>  
<https://wildaboutthere.com>  
<https://www.theflowerexpert.com>



Sources:

[https://kids.kiddle.co/Phases\\_of\\_the\\_Moon](https://kids.kiddle.co/Phases_of_the_Moon)

# Lessons from Our Natural Friends

NATURE CAN TEACH US SO MUCH! CHECK OUT THESE VIDEOS  
AND SEE WHAT YOU LEARN AS YOU OBSERVE.

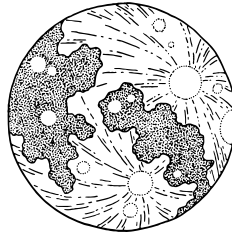
*Timelapse of Snowdrops (1 min)*  
<https://youtu.be/q0IKydH66VY>

*Snowdrops and Beautiful  
Music (3 min)*  
<https://youtu.be/dz34fUsE7zY>

*The Snowdrop by Hans Christian  
Andersen (9 min)*  
<https://youtu.be/HJSdnKZE5Pg>

*Phases of the Moon: Astronomy and  
Space for Kids (6 min)*  
<https://youtu.be/f4ZHdzl6ZWg>

*SciShow Kids: Why Does the Moon  
Change? (4 min)*  
<https://youtu.be/yXe0yxzYkjo>



## What Did You Observe?

As you watch the videos listed above, or even better go outside and find your own snowdrops or look at the moon phase to observe, take some time to really study it. Pretend that you have to describe it to someone who's never seen one before. How would you explain it to them?

Ask some questions. What makes you go, "hmmmm" or say "I wonder"? No question is off limits. Think of as many questions as you can. Now you are curious! See if you can find some answers!

Use the worksheet on the next page to write down your observations. Also, please share! [Go to the Nature's Art Club Private Facebook group](#) and share your art and observations with our community!

[www.lilyandthistle.com](http://www.lilyandthistle.com)

# Your Observations

If you had to describe a snowdrop to someone, what would you say?

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What curious new things did you discover as you watched and read about snowdrops?

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Write down any questions you have about snowdrops. See if you can find at least one answer:

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Describe what a moon looks like to someone who has never seen one before:

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What curious new things did you discover about the phases of the moon?

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Write down questions you have about the moon and see if you can find the answers:

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# PHASES OF THE MOON

By: B. Bugs Anderson

I love to see the big full moon  
Like that I saw tonight.  
Why can't it always brightly shine  
So, earth looks milky white?  
When the moon is fully full  
It then begins to wane.  
It wanes until the dark new moon  
Then waxes back again.  
New moon, crescent, quarter moon,  
Gibbous, then you view  
Full moon, gibbous, quarter moon.  
Crescent, then it's new.  
Now gibbous moon sounds funny,  
But you have to memorize it.  
To learn about moon phases,  
Most highly I advise it!  
So now you know the phases  
Of the orb we call the moon.  
It's full one week then wanes away  
But it will be back soon!

