Miraculous Moon Dough

Simple Science Activity

Purpose:	The purpose of this activity is to create a model of the surface of the moon.
Standard (s):	**S4E1. Obtain, evaluate, and communicate information to compare and contrast the physical attributes of stars and planets.** d. Evaluate strengths and limitations of models of our solar system in describing relative size, order, appearance and composition of planets and the sun. (Clarification statement: Composition of planets is limited to rocky vs. gaseous.)
Materials:	foil pan, measuring cup, 2 cups corn starch, 1 cup hair conditioner, small pebbles or rocks
Procedures:	1. Measure out 2 cups of cornstarch and add to a foil pan. 2. Measure out 1 cup of hair conditioner and add to a foil pan. 3. Using your hands, mix the ingredients together. 4. Once the dough is made, flatten it out on a surface to about 1.2 to ¼ inch in thickness. 5. Using the pebbles or rocks, drop them onto the moon dough and observe what happens. *Tip: If the moon dough seems too slimy, add 1 tablespoon of cornstarch until you get the desired texture. If the moon dough seems too dry, add 1-1/2 teaspoons hair conditioner until you get the desired texture.*
Science Behind It:	The Moon is a 4.6-billion-year-old natural object that orbits the Earth. Mostly made of rock, the surface of the Moon is littered with pieces of rock and dust. The surface itself is not smooth but covered with craters from meteorites that have crashed into the Moon. Plains (called maria) created by solidified pools of lava and mountains are also visible on the Moon's surface. In 1969, the U.S. Apollo 11 spacecraft carried the first two people (Neil Armstrong and Edwin (Buzz) Aldrin, Jr.) to walk on the moon. They brought 842 pounds of Moon rocks back, which are still studied to this day.

	 Source: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/thumb/0/02/Apollo_11_moon_rock%2C_sample_10072%2C80.jpg/480px-Apollo_11_moon_rock%2C_sample_10072%2C80.jpg
Questions to Ask:	• What is the moon made of? • How is our moon dough like the moon? How is it different?