TREASURES FROM THE EARTH

MOON PHASE MOBILE

Let’s create hidden treasures, inspired by The Second Buddha: Master of Time—an exhibition about revealing gems of wisdom. It is said that Padmasambhava, known as the Second Buddha, hid his divine teachings to be discovered by the right person at the right moment. Our DIY activity for the month of April also honors Buddha Purnima, a festival celebrating Gautama Buddha’s birth, enlightenment, and death on the night of the full moon. As the full moon reveals treasures that are usually hidden at night, we’ll create luminous mobiles displaying the phases of the moon.

MATERIALS

1. Tinfoil
2. Lightweight cardboard (construction paper can be used as an alternative)
3. String
4. Wooden rod or long twig
5. Scissors
6. Hole puncher
7. Glue
INSTRUCTIONS

Step 1
Using a jar or cup to trace the circumference, cut the cardboard into 8 small circles.

Step 2
On each of the cardboard circles, draw 1 of the 8 phases of the moon: new moon, waxing crescent, first quarter, waxing gibbous, full moon, waning gibbous, last quarter, waning crescent.

Step 3
Cut the cardboard circles into the shapes of the moon phases.

Step 4
Cover each moon with tinfoil to achieve a luminescent and textured finish; glue seams.

Step 5
Punch a hole at the top of each moon.

Step 6
Tie string through the hole on each moon and attach it to the twig or rod; for best results, use a different length string for each moon phase.

Step 7
Tie string to both ends of the twig or rod to act as a hanging device.

Step 8
Hang up your moon phase mobile and admire!