



1. The gravitational pull of the moon causes the ocean water to be pulled slightly towards the moon (the water is pulled more strongly than Earth because it is more fluid). This causes a tidal bulge on the side of Earth closest to the moon, or “high tide.”
2. The strongest pull is exerted on the water closest to the moon. On the opposite side of Earth, the ocean water is “left behind” because it is farther away from the Moon. It experiences less gravitational pull, so it bulges on the side of Earth opposite to the moon. This process forms a second “high tide.”
3. The points at top and bottom (90 degrees away from the moon on its orbit) are the points of “low tide.”
4. Time of day for high and low tide change because the moon orbits the Earth. Earth also exerts a gravitational pull on Moon, keeping it in orbit.