Trace the Tide

Follow citations from a claim to its online source.

6.W.6.a "Link to and cite sources with a standard format such as MLA or APA."

NAME _____ DATE _____

1 READ AND MARK

Read it twice

YOUR JOB Underline each parenthetical citation in the passage, then number it to match its Works Cited entry. Circle the direct link in each entry so you can see how a reader finds the source.

The Moon, the Shore, and the Sources

1 At the shore, the waterline shifts across rocks during the day. The Moon's gravity helps cause this change by pulling on Earth's oceans, creating tides (NOAA). The Sun's gravity also affects tides, but the Moon has a stronger effect on them because it is much closer to Earth (NOAA). A beach that looks wide at low tide may seem narrow at high tide. To plan a shore walk, you need a local tide chart, not just a guess based on the Moon's shape.

2 The Moon itself does not make its own light. Sunlight reflects off its surface, so we can see it from Earth (NASA). As the Moon travels around Earth, we see different portions of its sunlit half. Those changing views are the Moon's phases (NASA). A full Moon happens when Earth is between the Sun and the Moon, though the three bodies do not usually line up exactly. Around new and full Moons, the Sun and Moon work together to make the difference between high and low tides larger (NOAA).

3 Works Cited. NASA. "Moon Facts." *NASA Science*, https://science.nasa.gov/moon/facts/. Accessed 7 Nov. 2026. NOAA. "What Causes Tides?" *National Ocean Service*, https://oceanservice.noaa.gov/facts/tides.html. Accessed 7 Nov. 2026. The names in parentheses in the first two paragraphs match the names that begin these entries. Each entry also gives a page title and a direct link, so a reader can find the source. An access date tells when the writer visited the page. The two entries are arranged alphabetically by the names at their start. In a report, put each entry on its own line.

2 ANSWER WITH EVIDENCE

Use the passage

1. Copy the parenthetical citation for the claim that the Sun affects tides.

2. Copy the direct link for the source of the claim about the Moon's phases.

3. Which page title in Works Cited matches the citation (NOAA)?

4. Why is the NASA entry listed before the NOAA entry?

3 YOUR TURN

Your own words

Use this source card: NASA, "Mars Facts," *NASA Science*, https://science.nasa.gov/mars/facts/; fact: Mars has two moons, Phobos and Deimos; visited 7 Nov. 2026. Write one sentence stating the fact with an MLA parenthetical citation, then write a matching Works Cited entry with the direct link and access date.

ANSWER KEY

Trace the Tide

GRADE 6 · 6.W.6.a

PART 1 · READ AND MARK

Underline each parenthetical citation in the passage, then number it to match its Works Cited entry. Circle the direct link in each entry so you can see how a reader finds the source. Accept any marking that follows this job and points at the right text.

PART 2 · ANSWERS

#	QUESTION	ANSWER
1	Copy the parenthetical citation for the claim that the Sun affects tides.	**(NOAA)**
2	Copy the direct link for the source of the claim about the Moon's phases.	**https://science.nasa.gov/moon/facts/**
3	Which page title in Works Cited matches the citation (NOAA)?	**"What Causes Tides?"**
4	Why is the NASA entry listed before the NOAA entry?	**Works Cited entries are arranged alphabetically by the names at their start. NASA comes before NOAA.**

PART 3 · YOUR TURN (SAMPLE ANSWER)

Mars has two moons named Phobos and Deimos (NASA).

Works Cited
NASA. "Mars Facts." *NASA Science*, https://science.nasa.gov/mars/facts/. Accessed 7 Nov. 2026.

Accept an original sentence that accurately states the fact and cites (NASA). The Works Cited entry should match that citation and include the supplied page title, site name, direct link, and access date.