

Name _____

The Moon and Tides Cloze Passage Answer Key

Completed Passage:

The **Moon** (1) pulls on Earth's oceans with its gravity, creating bulges of water that cause **tides** (2). When the Sun, Earth, and Moon are in a straight line, **spring** (3) tides occur, leading to the **highest** (4) high tides and the **lowest** (5) low tides. When the Sun and Moon form a right angle with Earth, **neap** (6) tides occur, which create the **smallest** (7) difference between high and low water. Most coastal areas experience **two** (8) high tides and **two** (9) low tides each day. These tidal patterns are important for **fishermen** (10), sailors, and people living near the ocean.

Extension (Sample Answer):

It is helpful for coastal communities to know about spring and neap tides so they can plan safe fishing, shipping, and beach activities. Predicting tides also helps protect against flooding and prepare for changes in water levels.