FIND YOUR FULL MOON FEELINGS!

This exercise is designed to:

1) **help kids recognize the beautiful, interesting, amazing, exciting, and surprising things to be found all around them, and**
2) **encourage them to use their observations to draw pictures and tell stories.**

STEP ONE!

Ask your students to think of things that fill them with wonder. To simplify the concept, describe "wonder" as the Full Moon Feeling—the feeling you get when you see the full moon in the night sky—the feeling of amazement and excitement and surprise.

Be sure to remind them Full Moon Feelings can be found anywhere!

1) **In things that are big and grand and distant** (like the moon or the Grand Canyon or the pyramids of Egypt)
2) **But also in things that are small and easy to overlook** (like ants on the sidewalk or the colors of the sunset)

STEP 2.

Draw the kids' full moon feelings! We know you're (probably) not a professional illustrator, but that's okay! Helping your students visualize their feelings helps make them feel valid and important. And even if your drawings are terrible, laughter is another source of wonder.

STEP 3.

Have the kids draw their own Full Moon Feelings. This helps establish a connection between experience, observation, and creation, which is the foundation of storytelling. (And a launchpad to self-confidence.)

Other Ideas

1) **Have the students draw each other's Full Moon Feelings.** This gives them a glimpse of the power and potential of collaboration.
2) **Invite the art teacher or principal to share their own Full Moon Feelings** and draw the kids' suggestions. (More laughter will probably result.)
3) **Ask the kids to think of Full Moon Feelings that relate to their school or town,** helping establish pride of place by pointing out the wonder to be found all around them.

Note: This exercise was developed as a companion to our picture book Everywhere, Wonder. *We've created a video in which we read the book and walk you through the Full Moon Feeling exercise. Check it out:* ***robbiandmatthew.com/full-moon-feeling***

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