

# Science- Earth, Sun and Moon - Year 5

## Prior Learning:

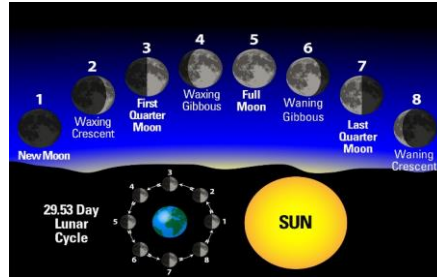
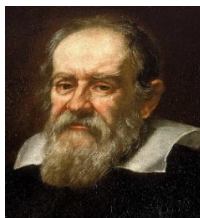
In **Year 1** you were taught to:  
observe changes across the four seasons  
observe and describe weather associated with the seasons and how day length varies.

## Key vocabulary

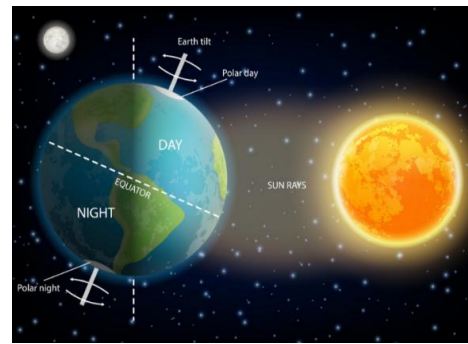
Sun	Star at the centre of our Solar System
Earth	Third planet from the Sun
Moon	The natural satellite of the Earth
Solar System	The collection of 8 planets and their moons in orbit around the Sun
spherical	Shaped like a sphere
rotates	Moves in a circle around an axis or centre
star	Large mass of burning gas
orbit	The curved path of an object or spacecraft round a star
planet	A body moving in orbit round a star
axis	The line through the centre of a spinning object

**Galileo (1564 - 1642)**

Galileo was an Italian astronomer who proved that the Sun was at the centre of our solar system

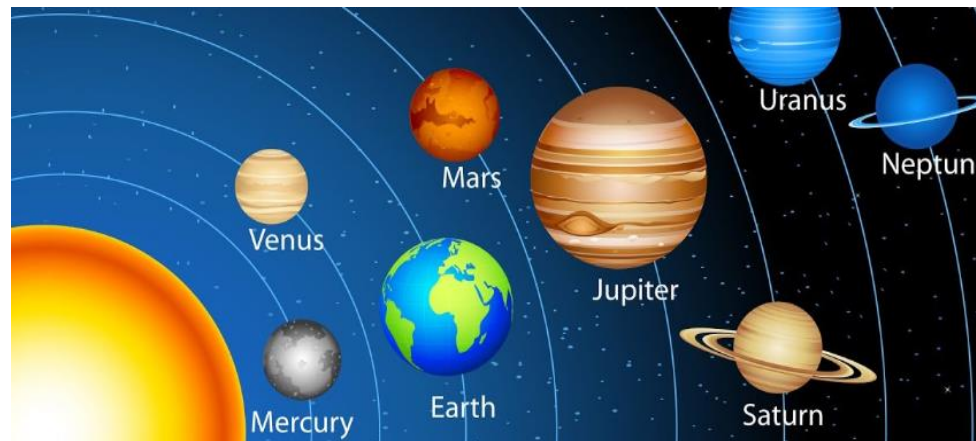


The Moon (Earth's only **natural** satellite) orbits Earth in an oval-shaped path while spinning on its axis - this takes approximately 28 days. At various times in a month, the Moon appears to be different shapes because the Sun shines on only part of it.



Earth rotates on its axis. It does a full rotation once in every 24 hours. At the same time as Earth is rotating, it is also orbiting around the Sun. It takes a little more than 365 days to orbit the Sun. Daytime occurs when the side of Earth is facing towards the Sun, night occurs when the side of Earth is facing away from the Sun and is in shadow.

The planets in order from the sun. These are not to scale in distance or size



## Key Facts

- 365  $\frac{1}{4}$  days in a year
- 28 days in a lunar cycle (approx.)
- 8 planets in the solar system
- The Sun, earth and moon are approximately spherical
- The earth rotates (spins) on its axis
- Planets travel around the Sun in fixed orbits
- The Sun is a star which is at the centre of our solar system

Planets in the Solar System orbit the Sun.



## Can I answer:

How do the Earth, and other planets move relative to the Sun and each other in the solar system?

How does the Moon move relative to the Earth?

How do we get day and night?  
Why does the Sun appear to move across the sky?