

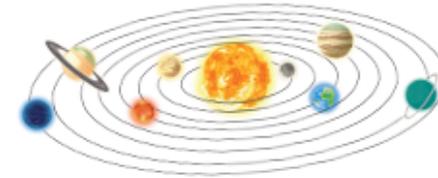


Key Vocabulary

celestial body	A celestial body is a natural object outside Earth's atmosphere, such as the planets , the Sun and the Moon.
Earth	Earth is the third planet from the Sun and the only planet known to support life.
moon	A moon is a natural satellite that orbits a planet . Earth's moon is called the Moon.
orbit	An orbit is a regular, repeating curved path that an object follows round another object.
planet	A planet is a large, spherical celestial body that orbits a star .
satellite	A satellite is a natural or human-made object or body that orbits a larger object such as a planet or a star .
Solar System	The Solar System is the collection of eight planets , their moons and other celestial bodies that orbit the Sun .

The Solar System

The **Solar System** is home to our own **planet, Earth**, as well as seven other **planets** and their **moons**.



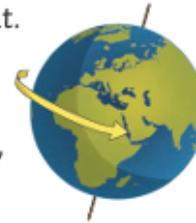
At the centre of the **Solar System** is a **star**: the **Sun**. It sends heat and light out to the far reaches of **space** and its gravitational pull keeps the other **celestial bodies** in the **Solar System** in **orbit** round it.

Day and Night

Every 24 hours, **Earth** rotates on its axis, which is an imaginary line that passes through its centre. This rotation causes the **Sun** to appear to move across the sky and is what causes the cycle of day and night, as one side faces the **Sun** and the other side faces away from the **Sun**.

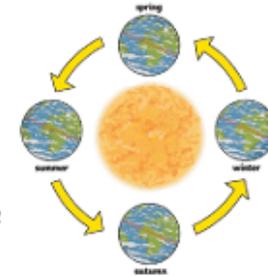
The side facing the **Sun** will be experiencing daytime, as it is lit and heated by sunlight.

The side facing away from the **Sun** will be experiencing nighttime, as it is in shadow.



Seasons

Each year, many places on **Earth** experience four seasons, each lasting for three months. These are spring, summer, autumn and winter.



The seasons are due to Earth's tilt as it **orbits** round the **Sun**. **Earth** is tilted at an angle of about 24° . This means that, at different times throughout the year, parts of **Earth** are either tilted towards or tilted away from the **Sun**, which changes temperatures and weather conditions.



Key Vocabulary

space	' Space ' is the term given to the area of the universe outside of Earth's atmosphere.
spherical	A spherical object is sphere-shaped, like a ball.
star	A star is a giant, glowing ball of hot, burning gas (mainly helium and hydrogen) held together by gravity.
Sun	The Sun is the name of the huge star at the centre of our Solar System that provides light and heat to the planets that orbit it.

Moons and Satellites

Satellites are natural or artificial objects that **orbit** round other objects such as **planets** and **stars**.

Artificial **satellites** are made by humans for a variety of reasons, such as for observation or navigation.



A natural **satellite** is a **celestial body** that **orbits** round a larger object such as a **planet** or **star**.

Moons are natural **satellites** that **orbit** many of the **planets** of the **Solar System**. The **moon** that **orbits Earth** is called the Moon.

The Moon

The Moon is **Earth's** natural **satellite**. It is made of rock and metal, is approximately **spherical** and is a quarter of the diameter of **Earth**.



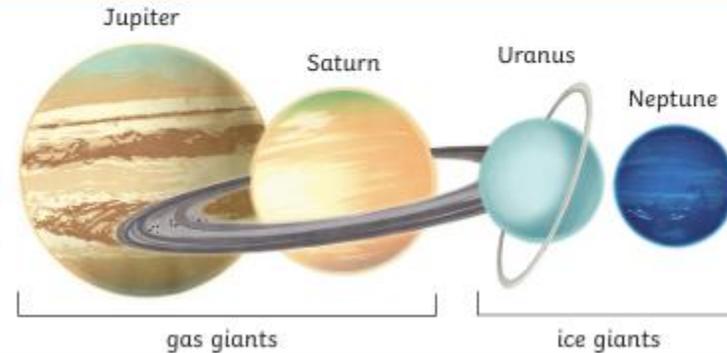
The Moon **orbits** round **Earth** once approximately every 27 days. It takes the same amount of time to rotate on its axis. This means we always see the same side of the Moon.

The Moon appears to change shape over the course of its 27-day **orbit** as different parts of it are lit or in shadow.

The Eight Planets of the Solar System

A **planet** is a large **celestial body** that **orbits** a **star**. **Planets** are roughly **spherical** in shape.

There are eight **planets orbiting** round the **Sun** in the **Solar System**, some made of rock and metal (the terrestrial **planets**) and some made of gas and ice (the gas and ice giants).





As a Scientist...

In year 5:

- Describe the movement of the Earth, and other planets, relative to the Sun in the solar system
- Describe the movement of the Moon relative to the Earth
- Describe the Sun, Earth and Moon as approximately spherical bodies
- Describe the idea of the Earth's rotation to explain day and night and the apparent movement of the sun across the sky.