



Earth and Space

What I need to know

- The Earth (our planet) is a part of the solar system. At the centre of the solar system is the sun. The sun is a star.
- There are 8 planets in our solar system that travel around the sun in fixed orbits.
- The Earth takes 365 $\frac{1}{4}$ days to complete its orbit around the sun. The Earth rotates (spins) on its axis every 24 hours.
- As the earth rotates, half is facing the sun and half is facing away from the sun. This causes day and night. The sun appears to move across the sky, but this is caused by the earth rotating.
- The moon orbits the earth. It takes approximately 28 days to complete its orbit.

Our solar system



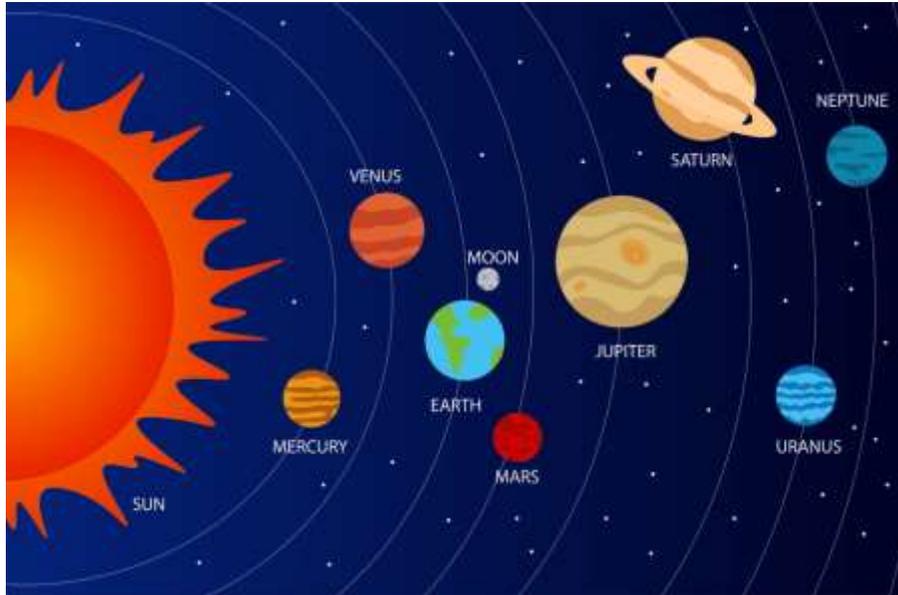
Earth, moon and sun



- The sun is at the centre of the solar system. The Earth and all other planets in the solar system orbit the sun.
- The earth orbits the sun. It takes 365 $\frac{1}{4}$ days to do a full orbit and this is known as a year.
- Objects that orbit around planets are called moons. The Earth has one moon and it takes 28 days to orbit around the Earth.



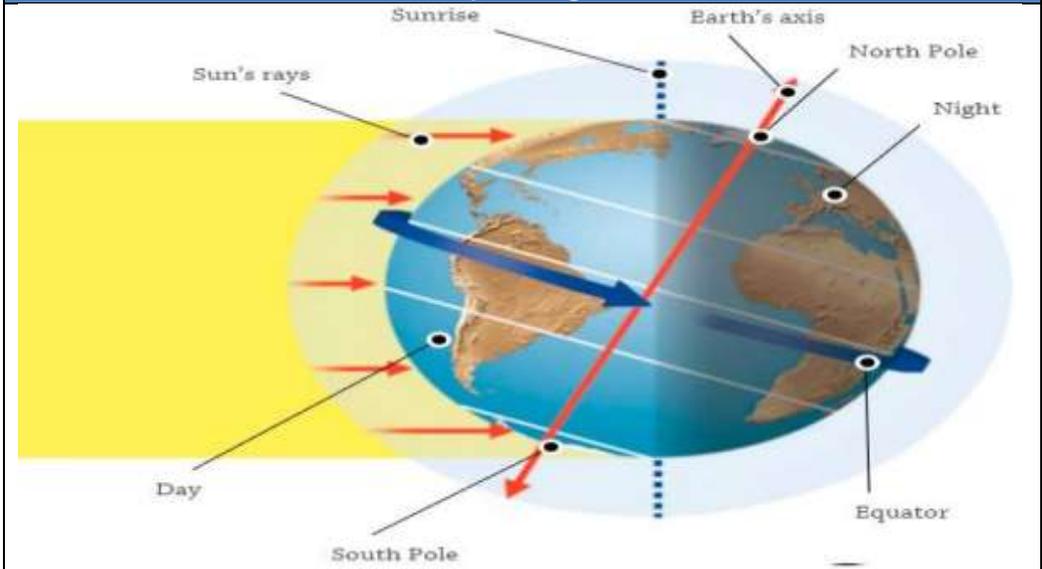
Earth and



Key Vocabulary

Star	A burning mass of gas that makes heat and light energy.
Planet	An object that orbits a star and does not emit its own light.
Orbit	A curved path of a planet or satellite around an object.
Solar system	A star with objects (such as planets) orbiting it.
Satellite	A man-made or natural (the moon) object that orbits a planet.
Gravity	An invisible force that pulls objects towards each other.
Rotation	The movement of an object in a circular motion.

Day and night



- The earth is always spinning on its axis.
- When one side of the Earth is facing the sun, the sun's rays light up that part of Earth and it is day time.
- The other side of the Earth is facing away from the sun. The sun's rays cannot reach this part of the earth so it is dark and night time.



Astronauts

- Neil Armstrong was the first person to land on the moon in 1969.
- Mae Jemison is the

FIRST AFRICAN-
American woman to



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Year 5