

Year 5 - Earth and Space - Half Term 5

The Sun

The Sun is a burning ball of gas which appears to move across the sky during the day. However, this movement is actually due to the Earth's orbit around the sun.

Earth's movement

The Earth spins on its axis and completes a full rotation every 24 hours. The Earth is constantly rotating and orbiting the Sun - which takes 365 days. As the Earth rotates, it faces towards and away from the Sun. This creates the day and night cycle.



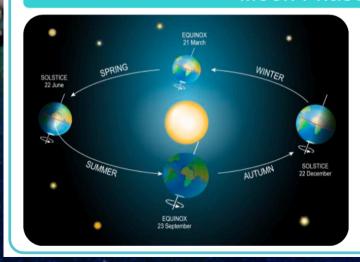
The Solar System



Mercury
Venus
Earth
Mars
Jupiter
Saturn
Uranus
Neptune

Copernicus developed the heliocentric theory that the sun was at the centre of the solar system. The planets orbit the sun in a circular pattern. Each planet has its own characteristics and features. The four inner planets are the rocky terrestrial planets. The four outer planets are the gas giants.

Moon Phases



The moon orbits
Earth in an oval
pattern whilst
spinning on its axis.
The sun illuminates
the Moon. The
shadow of the Earth
creates the moon's
phases.

	Toy Vocabalary		
heliocentric	The modern model of the solar system, which places the Sun at the centre		
geocentric	The old solar system model, which thought the Earth was at the centre.		
solar system	The name for the Sun and all planets and objects that orbit it.		
astronomy	The study of space, planets and the universe as a whole.		
terrestrial planet	The name given to the four inner rocky planets - Mercury, Venus, Earth and Mars.		
gas giants	The name given to the four outer planets - Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune.		
axis	The (imaginary) line which a planet rotates around and tilts on.		
orbit	The path of a celestial object around another, such as Moon around the Earth.		
moon	A body which orbits a planet; also called a natural satellite.		
phase	The appearance of a Moon or planet, according to the amount of illumination.		
waxing	the name given to Moon phases when the Moon is becoming brighter		
waning	the name given to Moon phases when the Moon is becoming darker		

Key Vocabulary

	To know statements	√ ×
	I know about the solar system and its planets.	
	I know about the movement of the Earth and other planets relative to the Sun in the solar system.	
The second second	I know about and can explain the Earth's movement in space.	
The second	I know about and can explain the Earth's rotation and night and day.	
	I know about the movement of the Moon relative to the Earth.	
	I know that the Sun, Earth and Moon are approximately spherical bodies.	

What can you remember from previous units?

What do you know about the light that comes from the sun?

Can you explain how shadows are formed?

Anything else you have learnt? What have you enjoyed?