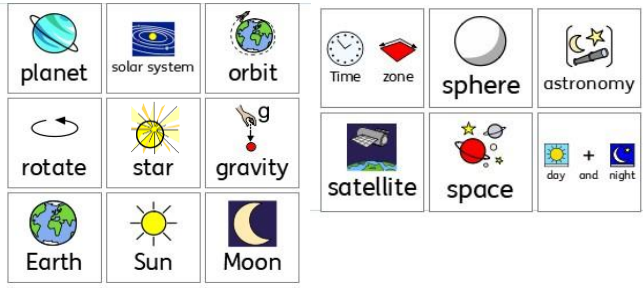


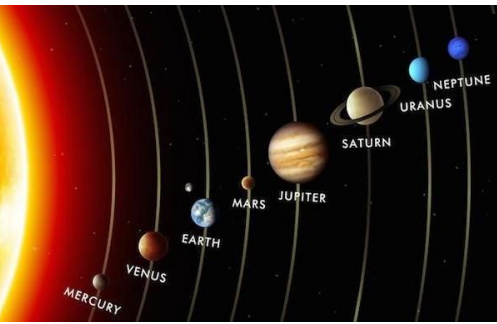
Science – Earth and Space



The Solar System

There are 8 planets in Solar System that orbit around the sun: Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune.

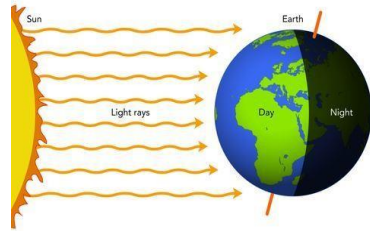
An easy way to remember the names of planets in order is:
My Very Easy Method Just Speeds Up Naming



The Earth, Sun and Moon are approximately spherical in shape.

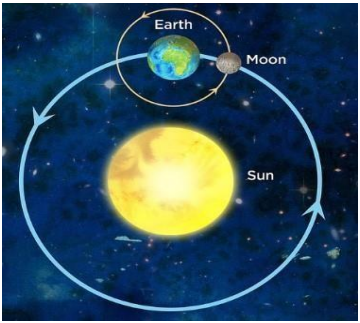
Day and Night

The Earth rotates on its axis anti-clockwise and makes a complete rotation over 24 hours (a day). This makes it appear as the Sun moves through the sky but the Earth's rotation causes day and night.



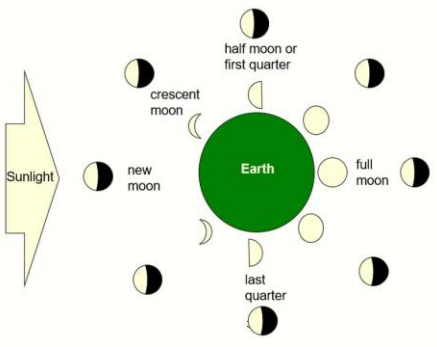
Movement of Planets

The Earth and the other planets move around the Sun in roughly circular paths called orbits. The planets are held in orbit because of the gravitational pull of the Sun. It takes the Earth 365 $\frac{1}{4}$ days to make one full orbit.



Movement of the Moon

The Moon orbits the Earth which takes approximately 28 days. The Moon looks bright because it reflects light from the Sun and has different phases depending on where it is in orbit. The different shapes are due to the Sun lighting up different parts of the moon.



Key Vocabulary

Star	A burning mass of gas that makes heat and light energy (e.g. the Sun)
Planet	An object that orbits a star and does not emit its own light. It is massive enough to have its own gravity.
Gravity	The force that attracts an object towards a larger object.
Solar System	The Solar System consists of the Sun and everything that orbits, or travels around the Sun, including the planets and moons.
Orbit	A curved path of a planet taken by one body circling around another body. The Earth makes an orbit around the Sun.
Satellite	An object either natural (moon) or man-made that orbits around a planet.
Axis	An imaginary line through the middle of something (e.g. a planet)
Heliocentric model	The structure of the Solar System where the planets orbit around the Sun.
Phases of the moon	As the Moon orbits the Earth, we can see a different amount of the moon lit by the Sun from Earth. These are called phases.

Scientific Lines of Enquiry

