

EARTH AND SPACE - YEAR 5

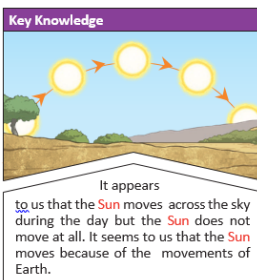


The Moon

The Moon orbits the Earth anticlockwise and takes approximately 28 days.

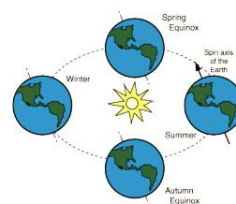
The Moon spins once on its axis every time it orbits Earth. This means that we only see one side of the Moon.

The Moon has different phases depending on where it is in its orbit. The Moon's gravity causes high and low tides.



The Earth

The Earth rotates one complete turn every 24 hours to give us day and night. When Britain faces the Sun it is daytime in Britain but the other side of the world is in darkness. So, in Australia it is the middle of the night.



Key vocabulary	Definition
Solar System	The solar system consists of the sun and everything that orbits the Sun.
Sun	A huge star that Earth and the other planets in our solar system orbit.
Star	A giant ball of gas held together by its own gravity.
Moon	A natural satellite which orbits Earth or other planets.
Planet	A large object, round or nearly round, that orbits a star.
Satellite	Any object or body in space that orbits something else, for example: the Moon is a satellite of Earth.
Orbit	To move in a regular, repeating curved path around another object.
Axis	An imaginary line that a body rotates around.
Astronaut	Person who travels beyond Earth's atmosphere.
Astronomy	The study of all objects outside Earth's atmosphere.
Astronomer	Someone who studies or is an expert in astronomy (space science).
Lunar	To do with a moon.
Solar	To do with a Sun.
Stellar	To do with a star.
Atmosphere	The envelope of gases surrounding a planet such as Earth.
Meteor	A small body such as rock that enters Earth's atmosphere from space.
Solar Eclipse	The Moon passes in front of the sun casting a shadow on the Earth.
Lunar Eclipse	The Earth casts its shadow on the Moon.

Key Knowledge and learning:

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 Sun/Earth/Moon as approximately spherical bodies.

Use the idea of the Earth's rotation to explain day and night.

The Earth spins once around its own axis in 24 hours, giving day and night.

The Earth orbits the Sun in one year.

We can see the Moon because the Sun's light reflects off it.

The Moon orbits the Earth in approximately 28 days and changes to the appearance of the moon are evidence of this.

The Sun appears to move across the sky from East to West and this causes shadows to change during the day.

Changes to shadow length over a day or changes to sunrise and sunset times over a year are evidence supporting the movement of the Earth.