

Key vocabulary

Orbit - the path one object takes around another (e.g. planets around the Sun)

Rotate / Rotation - to spin on an axis; Earth rotates once every 24 hours

Axis - an imaginary line through Earth from the North Pole to the South Pole

Satellite - an object either natural (e.g. the Moon) or man-made, that orbits around a planet

Phase - the shape of the visible part of the Moon as it orbits Earth

What is at the centre of the Solar System?

How long does it take Earth to rotate once?

How long does the Moon take to orbit Earth?

Why do we have day and night?

What causes the different phases of the Moon?

The Solar System

the sun is a star at the centre of the Solar System

the planets orbit the Sun in a set order:
Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune

each planet has different sizes, surfaces, and numbers of moons



Y5 Science Earth and Space

Earth's Movement

Earth orbits the Sun once every 365 days, giving us a year

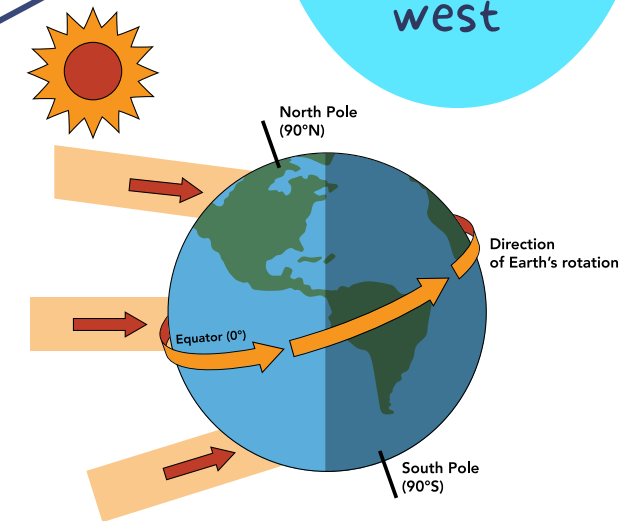
the Earth spins (rotates) on its axis once every 24 hours, causing day and night

Earth is approximately spherical

Day, Night and the Sun

day occurs on the side facing the Sun; night occurs on the opposite side

the Sun appears to move across the sky due to Earth's rotation



the Sun rises in the east and sets in the west

The Moon

it reflects sunlight and has different phases (new, crescent, full)

the Moon orbits Earth roughly every 28 days

phases change depending on the Moon's position relative to Earth and Sun