Year 5 Science
Autumn 2

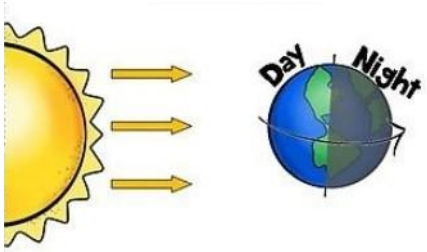
Earth and Space

Links to prior learning:

Year 1 learning: To observe changes across the four seasons. To observe and describe weather associated with the seasons and how day length varies

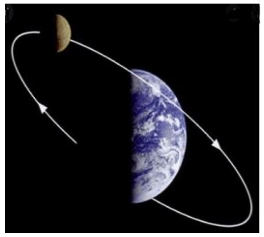
Night and Day

When a place on Earth faces the sun, it is daytime. When it faces away from the sun, it is night time.



The moon's orbit

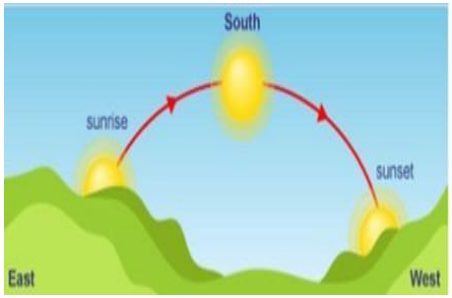
The moon orbits the Earth once every 27.322 days. It also takes approximately 27 days for the moon to rotate once on its axis. The Moon orbits the Earth on a tilted axis.



Movement of the Sun

During the day, the **sun** appears to **move** across the sky **in a** path that forms an arc. The sun rises at sunrise in the east and sets at sunset in the west.

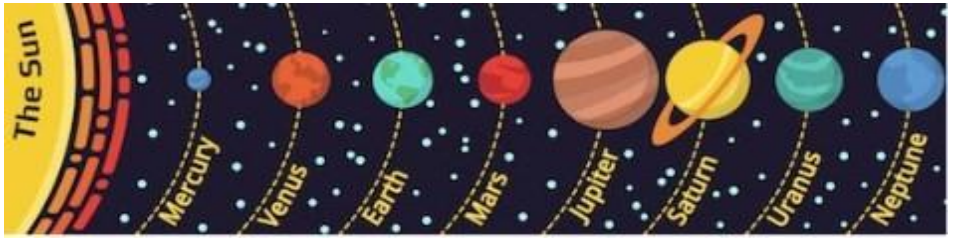
It takes the Earth one year, or 365 1/4 days, to completely orbit the **Sun.**



Solar system

The Sun's gravity pulls on the planets. Each of the planets rotates on its own axis as well as orbits the Sun. Each of the planets take various lengths of time to orbit the Sun.

There are 8 main planets. Pluto is one of many dwarf planets.



Key Vocabulary



star: a giant ball of hot, glowing gas that produces light and heat. Our sun is a star.



planet: a large, spherical object that orbits a star



moon: a ball or rock that orbits the Earth



satellite: a moon, planet or machine that orbits a star



orbit: a regular, repeating path one object in space takes around another



rotate: turning around a fixed point



axis: an invisible line around which an object rotates, or spins.



spherical: a 3D shape like a ball