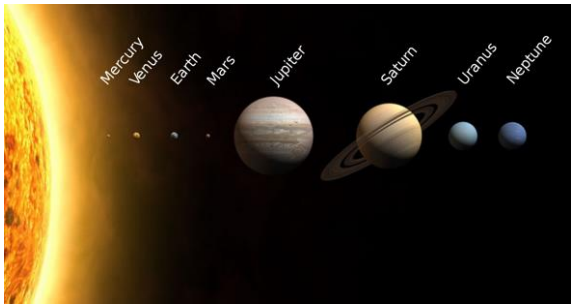
EARTH and SPACE – Knowledge Organiser Year 5 Autumn 2

Vocabulary

universe	The whole of space and all the stars, planets and other form of matter and energy in it.
galaxy	The extremely large group of stars and planets to which the Earth and solar system belong.
solar system	The Sun and all the objects that orbit it due to its gravity.
planet	A large, round object in space that moves around a star.
star	A large ball of burning gas in space.
satellite	A small object that orbits around a larger object in space. They can be natural or artificial.
Sun	The star at the centre of our solar system.
Earth	The fifth largest planet in our solar system and the only one thought to have people living on it.
Moon	A natural satellite of the Earth made of rock.
spherical	Has the shape of a sphere.
gravity	A force pulling two objects towards each other.
orbit	The curved path through which objects in space move around a planet or star.
rotate	To turn around a point or axis.
axis	An imaginary line around which an object rotates.
day	The time taken for a planet to rotate once on its axis (for Earth this is 24 hours).
year	The time taken for a planet to orbit the Sun (for Earth this is 365¼ days).
lunar month	The time taken for the Moon to orbit the Earth (28 days).
horizon	The line at which the Earth's surface and the sky appear to meet.

Sequence of planets from the Sun



Mercury – the smallest planet (rock)

Venus – the brightest planet (rock)

Earth – the only planet on which life is known to exist (rock)

Mars – known as the red planet (rock)

Jupiter – the largest planet (gas)

Saturn – known for its rings (gas)

Uranus – the coldest planet (gas)

Neptune – the furthest planet from the sun (gas)

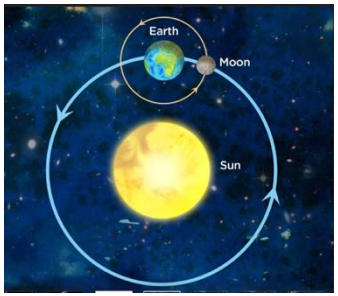
Mnemonic to help remember the planets

My **V**ery **E**asy **M**ethod **J**ust **S**peeds **U**p **N**aming (planets)

(Until recently the p in planets stood for Pluto but this is now classified as a dwarf planet.)

Movement of the Sun, Earth and Moon

- The Earth takes 24 hours (1 day) to rotate once on its axis.
- The Earth takes 365¼ days (1 year) to orbit the Sun.
- The Moon takes 28 days to orbit the Earth.

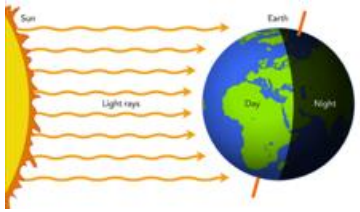


Day and Night

The Earth rotates anti-clockwise on its axis once every 24 hours.

At any one time, half of the Earth is in darkness (night-time) and half is in light (daytime).

As the Earth rotates, it appears that the Sun moves across the sky, with the Sun rising in the East and setting in the West, but it is the Earth which is moving not the Sun.



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