

Science: The Earth and Space

Year 5/6 Summer

Planet Earth Facts

- The planet Earth is about 4.5 billion years old.
- Earth spins at 1000 miles per hour. It takes 24 hours to complete a full rotation.
- It's daytime on the side of the Earth that faces the Sun and night-time on the side that is facing away.
- The Earth takes a year to travel around the Sun.
- Planet Earth has one moon, which is held in orbit by gravity.

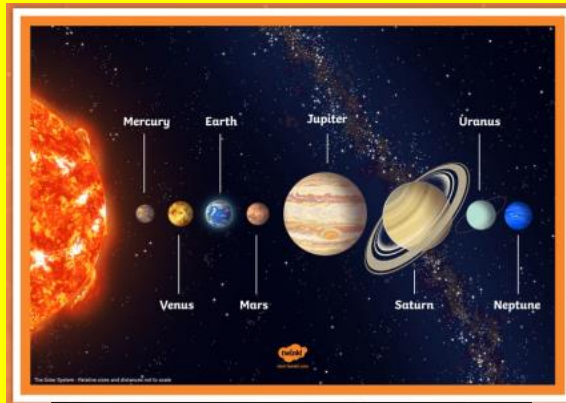
The Sun is roughly spherical in shape and is much, much bigger than the Earth.
1,300,000 times bigger!

Earth **rotates** (spins) on its axis. It does a full **rotation** once in every 24 hours. At the same time that Earth is **rotating**, it is also orbiting (revolving) around the **Sun**. It takes a little more than 365 days to **orbit** the **Sun**. Daytime occurs when the side of Earth is facing towards the **Sun**. Night occurs when the side of Earth is facing away from the **Sun**.



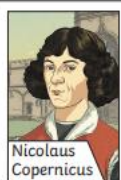
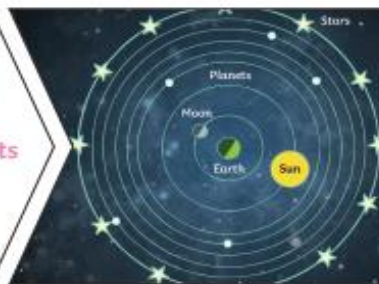
Knowledge

Organiser

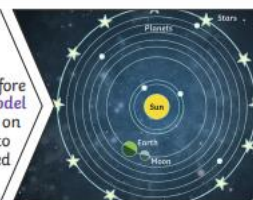


The Solar System

Geocentric model
Years ago people believed that **planets** moved around the Earth.



The work and ideas of many **astronomers** (such as Copernicus and Kepler) combined over many years before the idea of the **heliocentric model** was developed. Galileo's work on gravity allowed **astronomers** to understand how **planets** stayed in orbit.



Pluto used to be considered a **planet** but was reclassified as a dwarf **planet** in 2006.



The **4 rocky Planets** are:

- **Mercury,**
- **Venus,**
- **Earth**
- **Mars.**

They are the closest four planets to the Sun. They are made of rocks and metals. They have a solid surface and a core which is mainly made of iron. They are

The **4 gas Planets** are

- **Jupiter,**
- **Saturn,**
- **Uranus**
- **Neptune.**

They are the furthest planets from the Sun.

They each have many moons.
They are much bigger than the rocky planets.