



“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart”
sians 3:23

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Our Earth and the Solar

Year 5
Spring 1

Know that:

- The solar system we live in is called The Milky Way Galaxy.
- The sun is a star at the centre of our solar system.
- **Earth is one of the 8 planets of the Solar System; they all orbit the Sun**
- The 8 planets of the solar system are: Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune
- Pluto was reclassified as a ‘dwarf planet’ in 2006.
- A moon is a celestial body which orbits a planet. (Earth has 1 moon; Jupiter has 4 large moons and numerous other small ones)
- Earth takes one year to orbit around the Sun.
- **The Moon orbits the Earth approximately once every 28 days.**
- The Sun, Earth and Moon are approximately spherical bodies.
- **Night and day occur because Earth rotates on its axis once every 24hrs.**
- The tilt of the Earth’s axis and the orbit around the Sun cause the seasons.

Key Vocabulary:

- Spherical— shaped like a sphere
- Solar system –the system which is made up of the Sun and all of the smaller objects that move around it.
- Orbit—movement around a star or planet.
- Rotate—the action of turning around a centre point.
- Axis—an imaginary line that an object turns around. This imaginary line runs directly through the object's centre, from the north to the south poles
- Star—an exploding ball of burning gas held together by gravity
- Planet— a large natural object that orbits, or travels around, stars.
- Gravity—the force which holds objects to Earth.
- The main planets in our solar system (The Milky Way) are called:
 - Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune
- Geocentric – an idea that the Earth is at the centre of the Universe
- Heliocentric – an idea that the Sun is at the centre of the Universe

