

Vital Vocabulary

Key Word	Definition
Sphere	A 3D shape like a ball.
Axis 	An invisible straight line going through the centre of a spinning object.
Rotate 	To move in a circle round an axis.
Orbit 	A curved path in space which is followed by an object going round and round.

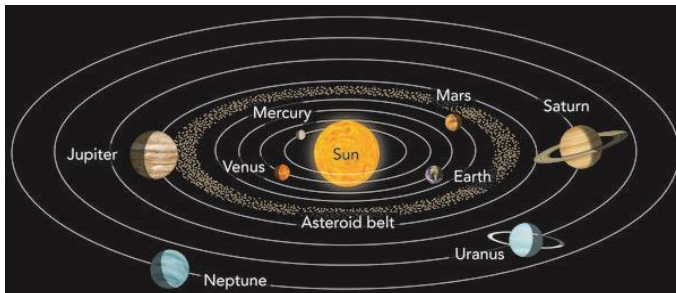
Our Solar System

The Sun is a source of light. It is at the centre and the planets follow individual paths called **orbits** around it.

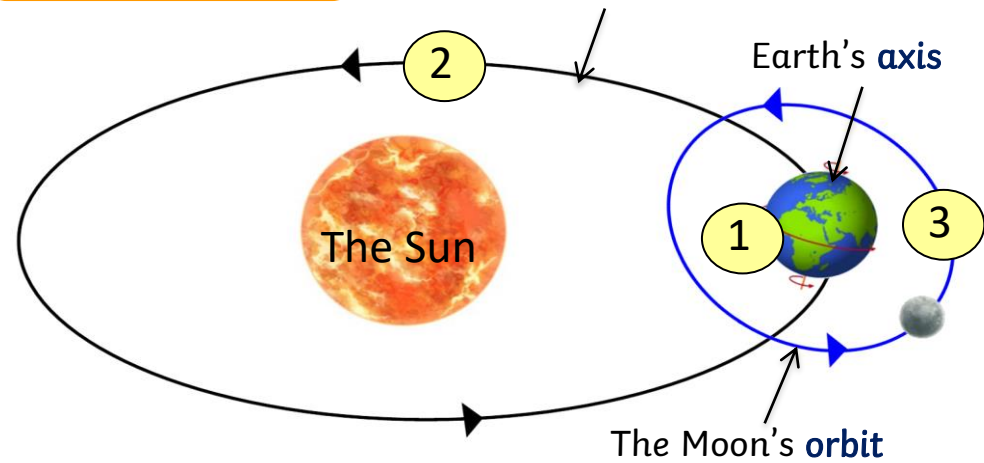


The planets travel in the same direction but move at different speeds and take different times to complete one **orbit**.

The planets **rotate** as they orbit the Sun.



Our planet - Earth



1. The Earth takes **1 day** to **rotate** on its own axis.
2. The Earth takes **1 year (365 days)** to **orbit** the sun.
3. The Moon **orbits** the Earth which takes **about a month**.



The Sun appears to move across the sky as the day goes on. However, it isn't the Sun that is moving – it's us on the Earth!

Sun safety

- It is important to protect your eyes and skin from the sun.
- You should never look directly at the sun.
- UVB rays from the sun can cause burns.

Helen Sharman (1963)



First British women in space.