

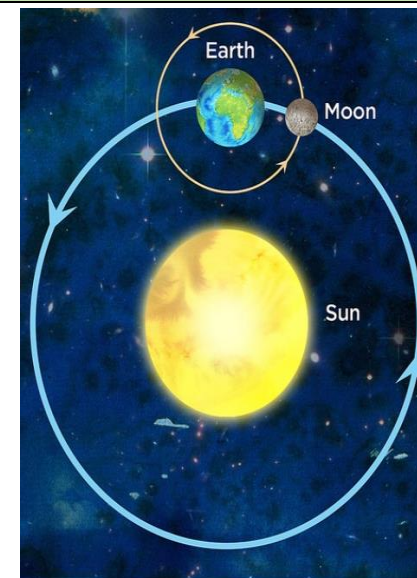


## Overview



- The Earth (our planet) is a part of the Solar System. At the centre of the Solar System is the Sun. The Sun is a star.
- There are 8 planets and 5 dwarf planets in the Solar System, which orbit (go around) the Sun.
- It takes Earth just over 365 days to go around the Sun (one year).
- The Earth rotates on its axis once every 24 hours (one day). This causes day and night, as different parts of the planet face the Sun.
- The Moon orbits around the Earth. The Sun, Earth and Moon are all roughly spherical.

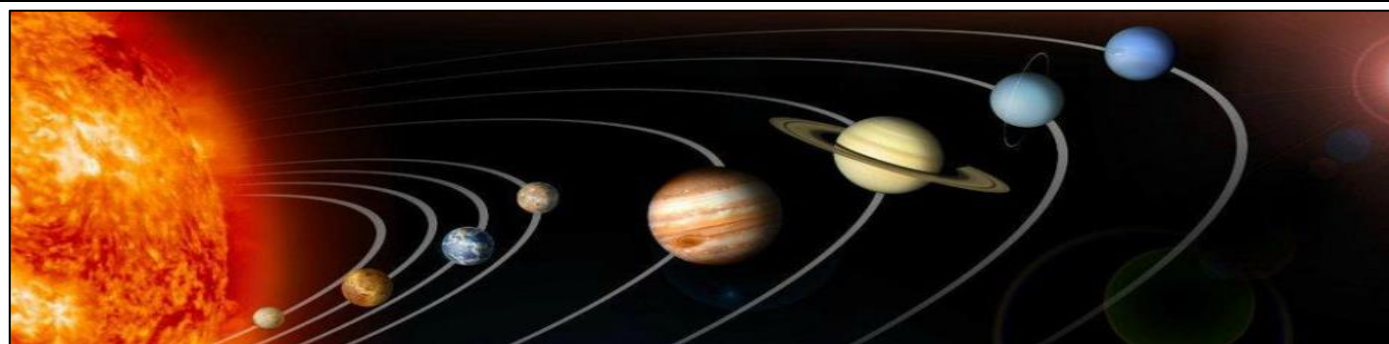
## The Sun and the Moon



- The Sun is a star: a huge ball of hot gas that gives off light & heat. The Earth (and all of the planets in the Solar System) orbit the Sun.
- It takes the Earth just over 365 days to make one complete orbit around the Sun - this is one year. The Earth and other planets are held in place around the Sun by gravity - the same force that keeps you on the Earth!
- The Earth is always spinning around. When a point on Earth is facing the Sun, it is daytime. When facing away, it is nighttime. It takes 24 hours for the Earth to complete a spin (one day).
- Some objects orbit around the planets. These are called moons. The Earth has one moon (just called The Moon). The Moon is much smaller than the Earth and takes one full day to complete an orbit around the Earth.

## The Solar System

- The Solar System includes the Sun and all of the objects that orbit around it due to gravity.
- The Earth is one of eight planets that orbit the Sun. It is the third closest to the Sun.
- The planets are (from closest to furthest away from the Sun) Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune. Jupiter is the largest planet and Mercury is the smallest.
- There are also five dwarf planets: Haumea, Makemake, Ceres, Eris and Pluto.
- Earth is the only known planet in the Solar System where there are living things. The planets closer to the Sun are thought to be too hot, whilst some of those further away are too cold.
- You could fit about 1,321 Earths inside Jupiter. You could fit 1.3 million Earths into the Sun!
- Many of the planets (including Earth) have moons which orbit them. Jupiter has around 80 moons!
- The Sun is gigantic, but it is just one of billions of stars in our galaxy: The Milky Way. The Milky Way is just one of billions of galaxies in the Universe!



## Planet Facts

Mercury	Venus	Earth	Mars	Jupiter	Saturn	Uranus	Neptune
<b>Area:</b> 0.147 Earths 8 <sup>th</sup> Largest	<b>Area:</b> 0.902 Earths 6 <sup>th</sup> Largest	<b>Area:</b> 1 Earth! 5 <sup>th</sup> Largest	<b>Area:</b> 0.284 Earths 7 <sup>th</sup> Largest	<b>Area:</b> 121.9 Earths 1 <sup>st</sup> Largest	<b>Area:</b> 83.7 Earths 2 <sup>nd</sup> Largest	<b>Area:</b> 15.91 Earths 3 <sup>rd</sup> Largest	<b>Area:</b> 14.98 Earths 4 <sup>th</sup> Largest
<b>Moons:</b> None	<b>Moons:</b> None	<b>Moons:</b> 1 moon	<b>Moons:</b> 2 moons	<b>Moons:</b> Around 80 moons	<b>Moons:</b> Around 65 moons	<b>Moons:</b> Around 30 moons	<b>Moons:</b> Around 15 moons
<b>Length of Day:</b> 1,408 hours	<b>Length of Day:</b> 5,832 hours	<b>Length of Day:</b> 24 hours	<b>Length of Day:</b> 25 hours	<b>Length of Day:</b> 10 hours	<b>Length of Day:</b> 11 hours	<b>Length of Day:</b> 17 hours	<b>Length of Day:</b> 16 hours
<b>Length of Year:</b> 88 days	<b>Length of Year:</b> 225 days	<b>Length of Year:</b> 365 days	<b>Length of Year:</b> 687 days	<b>Length of Year:</b> 12 Years	<b>Length of Year:</b> 29 Years	<b>Length of Year:</b> 84 Years	<b>Length of Year:</b> 165 Years

## The Planets

Mercury



Venus



Earth



Mars



Jupiter



Saturn



Uranus



Neptune

