

Focus: What makes our Earth and Universe so special?

Key vocabulary:

Solar system: The solar system consists of the sun and everything that orbits, or travels around, the sun.

Orbit: the path of an object around a particular point in space, for example the path the Moon takes around the Earth.

Axis: is an imaginary line an object turns around and goes through the centre of a planet.

Rotate: to spin round an axis.

Eclipse: a complete or partial hiding of the sun caused by the moon's passing between the sun and the earth

Gibbous moon: The first quarter moon is when a quarter of the lit portion of the Moon is visible after the waxing crescent phase.

Half moon: The first half moon is when half of the lit portion of the Moon is visible after the waxing crescent phase.

Asteroid: is a chunk of rock and metal in outer space that is in orbit around the Sun (they vary in size).

Black hole: are the strangest objects in the Universe. A black hole does not have a surface, like a planet or star.

Astronaut: is a person who is specially trained to travel into outer space.

Gravity: is the force by which a planet or other body draws objects toward its centre.

Space station: is a spacecraft in a fixed orbit around the Earth.

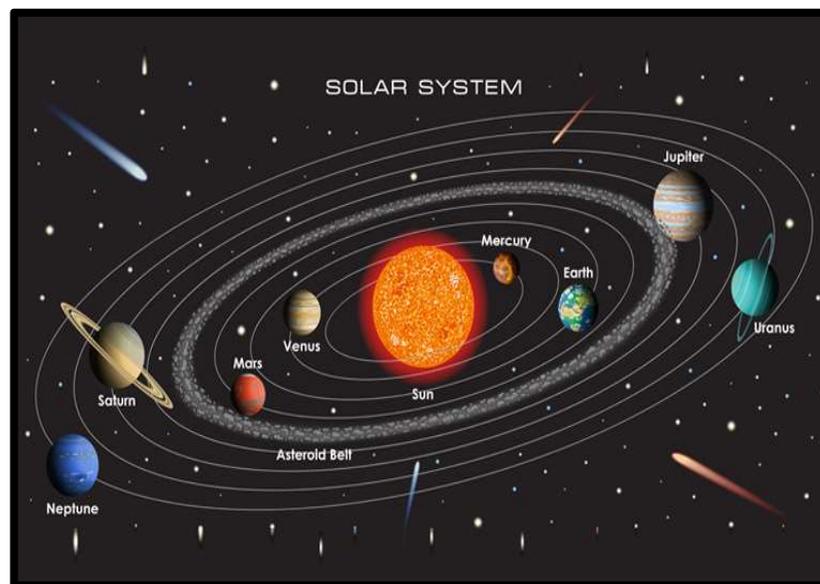
Milky way: a broad band of light that stretches across the sky and is caused by the light of a very great number of faint stars.

Key facts to retain:

- Know that the Earth is in an orbit.
- Know the Earth rotates on an axis, creating night and day.
- Know how the Moon is important to the Earth.
- The order of the different planets in our Solar system.
- Describe the movement of the Moon relative to the Earth.
- Understand that the Sun rises in the general direction of the East and sets in the general direction of the West.

What I should already know:

- The name of the 8 planets (Pluto is now not a planet)
- The order of the planets which orbit the sun
- How many days and weeks there are in a year, how many hours there are in a day.
- The Earth has a Moon
- That there are two hemispheres (Northern and Southern)
- Who goes up to space and who was the first man on the Moon.



Supporting experiences: