

Super Space Facts

The eight planets of our solar system all orbit the sun. We orbit the sun which takes 1 year or 365 days $\frac{1}{4}$

Because we orbit the sun, we have different seasons. The further away we are - the colder our country is.

The moon orbits the Earth and affects the tides - this takes approximately 30 days.

The Earth spins on its axis in an anti-clockwise direction as it orbits the sun.

The rotation of the Earth causes day and night. The earth takes 24 hours to complete one rotation.

The moon can appear to change shape in the sky due to its position in relation to the sun. As the moon rotates around the earth - this takes approximately one month (see moon phases)



Important dates!

1957	First satellite, Sputnik, sent into space
1961	Yuri Gagarin is the first man in space
1963	Valentina Tershkova is first woman in space
1969	Neil Armstrong & Buzz Aldrin land on the moon
1991	Helen Sherman is first British astronaut in space
1998	International Space Station (ISS) is launched into orbit
2015	Tim Peake is the first British ESA Astronaut to visit ISS



Prior Knowledge:

There are 24 hours in a day, 60 minutes in an hour. 12 months in a year.

Remember: Thirty days hath September, April, June, and November, all the rest have thirty-one. February has twenty-eight, but leap year coming one in four, February then has one day more.

Key Vocabulary

Asteroid	A small rocky body orbiting the sun
Axis	An imaginary line about which a body rotates
Celestial	Positioned in or relating to the sky, or outer space as
	observed in the astronomy
Cresent	The Moon or a planet before and after it is full, when it
	has less than half its disc illuminated.
Day	A twenty-four hour period, from one midnight to the
	next, corresponding to a rotation of the earth on its
	axis
Dwarf planet	A celestial body resembling a small planet but lacking
	certain technical criteria to be classed as a planet e.g.
	Pluto
Eclipse	The partial or complete hiding from view of an
	astronomical object, e.g. the Sun or Moon, when another
	astronomical object comes between it and the observer.
Moon	A natural satellite of any planet
Night	The period from sunset to sunrise in each twenty-four
	hours
Orbit	The regularly repeated oval course of a celestial object
	around a star or planet
Planet	A celestial body moving in orbit round a star
Rotation	The action of rotating about an axis or centre
Solar system	The collection of eight planets and their moons in orbit
	round the sun
Star	A fixed luminous point in the night sky which is a large,
	remote body like the sun
Sun	The star round which planets orbit