

UKS2: Earth and Space, Solar System, day and night.



Key vocabulary		
Axis	An imaginary line through the	
	centre of the sun which turns.	
Gravitational pull	The force that pulls planets,	
	stars, or particles towards each	
	other.	
Lunar eclipse	When the Earth is between the	
	sun and the moon casting a	
	shadow on the Moon.	
Orbit	The path that a planet takes to	
	rotate around the sun.	
Revolve	To turn or spin in place	
Rotate	To turn on an axis	
Solar eclipse	When the Moon is between the	
	sun and the Earth casting a	
	shadow over the Earth.	
Solar	Our sun and the eight planets	
system	and other objects that orbit it.	
Spherical	Nearly the shape of a sphere.	
Universe	All existing matter and space	
	as a whole.	

Key Knowledge			
Preceding	The year is split into four seasons - spring,		
	summer, autumn and winter (Y1)		
	Daylight is longest in the summer and shortest in	l	
	the winter (Y1)		
	Weather changes throughout the year with the		
	weather hottest in the summer and longest in the	:	
	winter (Y1)		
	 Light travels in straight lines (Y3) The Sun is a natural light source - the Moon 		
	reflects the sun's light to the earth (Y3)	1	
	The sun is a star.		
	The sun is at the centre of our solar system.		
	Our solar system is a tiny fraction of the universe		
	There are eight planets in our solar system		
	(Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn,		
	Uranus, Neptune).		
	The eight planets travel around the sun in fixed		
Current	orbits.		
	• The earth takes $365\frac{1}{4}$ days to orbit the sun		
	The further away from the sun, the longer the		
	planet takes to orbit the sun.		
	The Earth rotates (spins) on its axis. Miles the Footbook of the second of the s		
	When the Earth faces the sun it is day, when it faces away from the gun it is night.		
	faces away from the sun it is night.As the Earth rotates, the sun appears to move		
	across the sky.	'	
	 The rotation of the Earth affects the angle the 		
	sunlight hits the Earth - this changes our shadow		
	length over the day.		
	The Moon orbits the Earth.		
	The Moon is a natural satellite - man-made	:	
	satellites also orbit the Earth.		
	The Moon takes approximately 28 days to orbit	•	
	the Earth.		

Scientific Enquiry		
Observing over time	How does shadow length change over the day	
Pattern Seeking	Is there a pattern between the size of a planet and the time it takes to travel around the Sun?	
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Research	What unusual objects did Jocelyn Bell Burnell discover?	
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Identifying and classifying	Can you observe and identify all the phases in the cycle of the Moon?	