

KEY VOCABULARY AND SPELLINGS

Earth and Space Knowledge oragniser

Planet - an object that orbits a star and does not emit its own light.

Star - a burning mass of gas that makes heat and light energy (e.g. the sun).

Gravity - the force that attracts an object towards a larger object.

Solar system - a star with objects (such as planets) orbiting it.

Orbit - a curved path of a planet or satellite around an object.

Satellite - an object either natural (moon) or man-made that orbits around a planet.

NASA - the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, a US agency responsible for the exploration and study of space.

Universe - all of space and everything in it.

Astronomy - the branch of science that deals with space and the physical universe as a whole.

Asteroid - a small rocky body orbiting the sun.



The Earth and the moon

The moon orbits Earth in an oval-shaped path whilst it spins on its axis. At different times in the month the moon appears to be different shapes, this is because the sun lights up different parts of the moon as the moon moves around the Earth.

Day and night

The Earth rotates (spins) on its axis, it does a full spin once every 24 hours, which is our day and night. Daytime occurs when the side of the Earth is facing the sun and night occurs when the side of the Earth is facing away from the sun.

