

Key Vocabulary

Solar	Relating to the Sun
Orbit	The curved path of an object
Axis	An imaginary line round which something rotates
Rotating	Moving in a circle around an axis
Sphere	A shape like a ball
Gravity	The force that pulls towards the centre of Earth
Solar System	A system of planets which revolve around a star (or sun).
Satellite	An object that orbits a planet.
Planet	A celestial body moving in an elliptical orbit round a star
Asteroid	A small rocky body orbiting the sun. Large numbers of these, ranging enormously in size, are found between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter, though some have more eccentric orbits.

Background Knowledge

Children will know some of the planets in our Solar System. The largest planet in the solar system is Jupiter, followed by Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, Earth, Venus, Mars with the smallest being Mercury.

Earth and Space

What is our place in space?

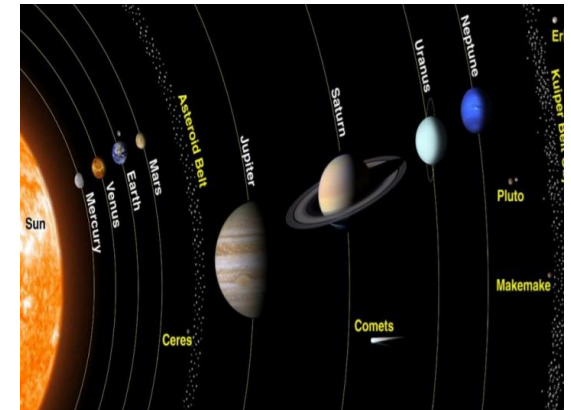
This science during the Autumn Term links to the Ancient Greeks topic.

Planets in the Solar System

Mercury:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A year on Mercury is just 88 days long. 57.9 million km from the sun.
Venus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A day on Venus lasts longer than a year on Earth Venus rotates counter-clockwise 108.2 million km from the sun
Earth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Earth has one moon which orbits it every 28 days Earth does one full rotation on its axis in 24 hours 149.6 million km from the sun
Mars	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mars is home to the tallest mountain in the solar system 227.9 million km from the sun
Jupiter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jupiter orbits the Sun once every 11.8 Earth years Has over 70 moons orbiting it 778.3 million km from the sun
Saturn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Saturn orbits the Sun once every 29.4 Earth years 1,427.0 million km from the sun
Uranus	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Uranus turns on its axis once every 17 hours, 14 minutes (Earth time) 2,871.0 million km from the sun
Neptune	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Neptune spins on its axis once every 18 hours (Earth time) 4,497.1 million km from the sun

Important People

Yuri Gagarin	First man in space
Alan Shepard	First American in space
Valentina Tereshkova	First woman in space
Neil Armstrong	First man on the moon
Nicolaus Copernicus	Discovered the sun was at the centre of the solar system



Key Facts

1543 – Nicolaus Copernicus formulated a heliocentric model of the universe

1957- 4th October 1957, Russia launched the first satellite into space; Sputnik 1 and the space age had properly begun

1957 - Russian space dog, Laika, became the first animal to orbit the earth.

1961 - Russian Cosmonaut, Yuri Gagarin, became the first man in space.

5. Frictional force is any force that is caused due to friction. An example of this might be when you put on the brakes on your bike.

1969 - First men on the moon.

