

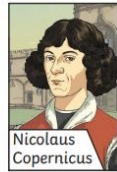
# Space

Unit Vocabulary – Join them up with the correct definition once you have learned it,

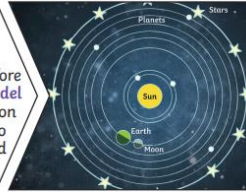
Solar system	To spin.
star	With the Earth at its centre.
planet	An imaginary line that a body rotates around.
satellite	A group of planets and celestial bodies orbiting a star
Spherical bodies	A satellite of the Earth
orbit	Something that is or is almost the shape of a sphere (round 3D shape like a ball).
rotate	A giant ball of gas, held together by its own gravity.
axis	To move in a regular, repeating path around an object.
geocentric	An object in space that orbits something else.
heliocentric	A large, spherical object that orbits a star.
Moon	With the Sun at its centre.

## The Solar System

**Geocentric model**  
Years ago people believed that **planets** moved around the Earth.

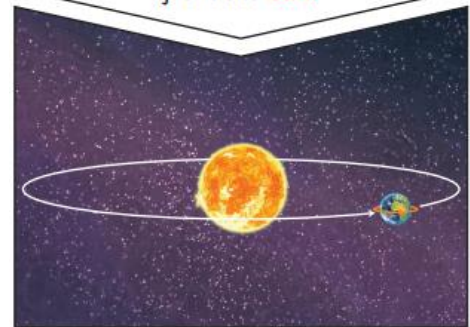


The work and ideas of many **astronomers** (such as Copernicus and Kepler) combined over many years before the idea of the **heliocentric model** was developed. Galileo's work on gravity allowed **astronomers** to understand how **planets** stayed in **orbit**.

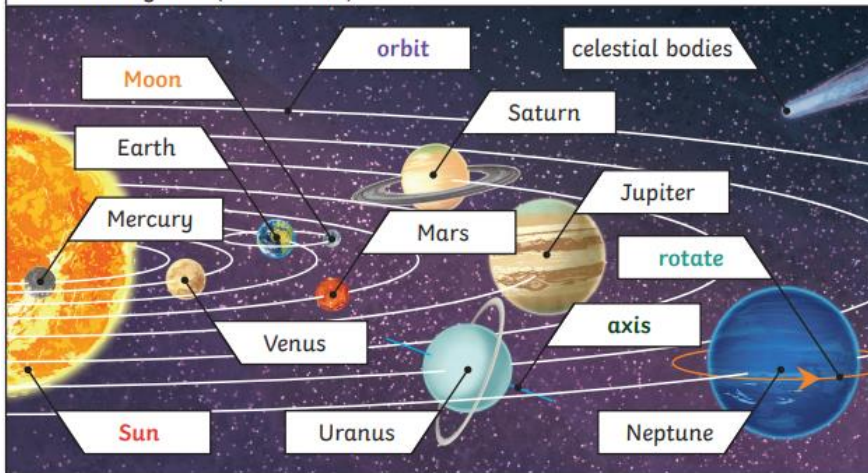


## Day and Night

Earth **rotates** (spins) on its **axis**. It does a full **rotation** once in every 24 hours. At the same time that Earth is **rotating**, it is also **orbiting** (revolving) around the **Sun**. It takes a little more than 365 days to **orbit** the **Sun**. Daytime occurs when the side of Earth is facing towards the **Sun**. Night occurs when the side of Earth is facing away from the **Sun**.



## Our Solar System (not to scale)



The **Moon** **orbits** Earth in an oval-shaped path while spinning on its **axis**. At various times in a month, the **Moon** appears to be different shapes. This is because as the **Moon** **rotates** round Earth, the **Sun** lights up different parts of it.

