

Nova's Solar System Explorer Fact-File

Learning objective: To describe the movement of the Earth and other planets relative to the Sun in the solar system.

Join Nova the owl on an adventure through space! Use your science knowledge to complete this fact-file. Choose one planet in our solar system to research and fill in the boxes below. Make sure to use the word bank to help you describe how the planets move.

Word bank: orbit · rotate · axis · solar system · spherical · gravity · sun

1. Planet Profile: Write the name of the planet you have chosen and describe its size and appearance. (2 marks)

2. The Journey: Explain how your chosen planet moves around the Sun. Use the word 'orbit' in your answer. (3 marks)

3. Day and Night: Describe how your planet rotates on its axis. Does this create day and night on that planet? (3 marks)

4. Space Distance: If a telescope costs £45 and a space map costs £12, how much would it cost to buy both for your research? (2 marks)

5. Nova's Discovery: Why is the Sun so important to the planets in our solar system? Think about light and heat. (3 marks)

Extension challenge: Imagine you are an astronaut visiting this planet. Write a short poem or a diary entry about what you see when you look out of your spaceship window.