

Nova's Guide to Our Solar System

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

Use this writing frame to help you write a report about how our solar system works. Remember to use scientific vocabulary and clear, descriptive sentences.

High above the Earth, Nova the owl watches the night sky and marvels at the vast, glowing solar system we call home.

Word bank: orbit · axis · rotate · spherical · gravity · solar system · consequently · furthermore · in addition · however

1. Introduction: Start by defining what the solar system is. You could begin with: The solar system is made up of the Sun at the centre and... (2 marks)

2. The Sun's Role: Explain the importance of the Sun. You could begin with: The Sun is a massive star that provides light and heat, and its gravity... (2 marks)

3. Planetary Motion: Describe how the Earth moves. You could begin with: The Earth does not stay still; instead, it completes a full orbit around the Sun every... (2 marks)

4. Day and Night: Explain why we have day and night. You could begin with: We experience day and night because the Earth rotates on its own axis, which means... (2 marks)

5. Conclusion: Summarise your findings. You could begin with: In conclusion, the movement of the planets is a fascinating process that keeps our world... (2 marks)

Extension challenge: Research one other planet in our solar system. Write a short paragraph explaining how long it takes that planet to complete one full orbit around the Sun compared to Earth.