

Nova's Cosmic Discovery Flashcards

Learning objective: To identify and describe the movement of the Earth and other planets relative to the Sun in the solar system, and to understand the Moon's orbit.

Study these flashcards to master the wonders of our solar system. Read the front, test your knowledge, then reveal the answer to see if you are correct!

The Sun

A massive, glowing ball of gas at the centre of our solar system that provides light and heat.

Orbit

The curved path that a planet or satellite takes around a star, planet, or moon.

Rotation

The action of the Earth spinning on its own axis, which creates day and night.

Axis

An imaginary line that runs through the North and South Poles, around which the Earth rotates.

Gravity

The invisible force that pulls objects towards the centre of a planet or star, keeping us on the ground.

Spherical

The shape of the Earth, Sun, and Moon; they are like a ball, not perfectly flat.

Satellite

A natural or artificial object that orbits a larger body, such as the Moon orbiting the Earth.

Solar System

The Sun and everything that orbits it, including eight planets, their moons, and other space rocks.

Planetary Year

The time it takes for a planet to complete one full orbit around the Sun.

Lunar Orbit

The path the Moon takes around the Earth, which takes approximately 28 days to complete.