

Nova's Night Sky: Our Solar System

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

Follow the drawing prompt below to create your own model of the solar system. Once your drawing is complete, use the word bank to label the parts of your diagram accurately. Use your best artistic skills to show how the planets orbit the Sun.

Draw: Create a diagram showing the Earth in orbit around the Sun. Use a bright yellow or orange for the Sun in the middle. Draw the Earth on an elliptical (oval-shaped) path around the Sun. Use a blue pencil to draw the Earth, and include a dashed line through the centre of the Earth to represent its axis. Ensure the style is clear and scientific, like a textbook diagram.



Label words: Sun · Earth · Orbit · Axis · Solar System · Planet

Steps:

1. Step 1: Draw a large circle in the centre of your page to represent the Sun. Step 2: Draw the Earth as a smaller circle on a path around the Sun. Label these two items.
2. What do we call the imaginary line that the Earth rotates on, which causes day and night?
3. How long does it take for the Earth to complete one full orbit around the Sun? Give your answer in days.

4. Why does the Sun appear to move across the sky during the day even though it is the Earth that is moving?
5. Label your drawing to show the path the Earth takes. What is the scientific name for this path?