

Nova's Guide to Our Solar System

Blast off into the cosmos with Nova the owl and explore the wonders of our celestial neighbourhood!

■ **The Sun is a star at the centre of our solar system, and all eight planets, including Earth, travel around it in a path called an orbit.**

■ **The Earth is shaped like a sphere and takes approximately 365 and a quarter days to complete one full revolution around the Sun.**

■ **The Moon is a natural satellite that orbits the Earth, and it takes about 28 days to complete its own cycle of phases.**

■ **Gravity is the invisible force that keeps our feet on the ground and ensures the planets remain in their stable orbits around the Sun.**

■ **The planets in our solar system, in order from the Sun, are Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune.**

Did you know? Did you know? Even though we feel like we are standing perfectly still, the Earth is spinning on its axis at about 1,000 miles per hour! Because of this constant rotation, we experience the cycle of day and night as different parts of our planet face towards or away from the Sun.

Key vocabulary: Orbit · Axis · Rotation · Sphere · Gravity · Solar System · Celestial