

Nova's Cosmic Flashcards: Journey Through the Solar System

Learning objective: To describe the movement of the Earth and other planets relative to the Sun in the solar system, and to use the idea of the Earth's rotation to explain day and night.

Use these flashcards to test your knowledge of space. Read the term or question on the left, then check the answer on the right. Can you explain the concepts to a friend?

What is the Earth's axis?	How long does it take for the Earth to complete one full rotation on its axis?
An imaginary line passing through the North and South Poles about which the Earth rotates.	Approximately 24 hours, which creates day and night.
What do we call the path a planet takes around the Sun?	How long does it take for the Earth to complete one full orbit around the Sun?
An orbit.	Approximately 365 and a quarter days (one year).
Which force keeps the planets in orbit around the Sun?	Define the term 'Heliocentric'.
Gravity.	A model of the solar system where the planets orbit around the Sun at the centre.
What is the Moon's relationship to the Earth?	Why do the stars appear to move across the sky at night?
The Moon is a natural satellite that orbits the Earth.	They appear to move because the Earth is rotating on its axis.
List the planets of our solar system in order from the Sun.	What creates the seasons on Earth?
Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune.	The tilt of the Earth's axis combined with its orbit around the Sun.