

**Key questions**

* Are you able to name the planets, star and satellite in our Solar system?
* Roughly, what are the shapes of the planets in our solar system?
* How long does it take for:
1. The Earth to spin once on its axis? What do we call this?
2. The moon to move around the Earth?
* Is it true that the sun moves around the Earth? What happens?
* Can you explain why we get day and night?
* Can you name the phases of the moon?
* Why does the sun look like it’s moving across the sky?
* Why is it not safe to look directly at the sun?
* How did people work out the times of the day before traditional watches and clocks?

**Key Vocabulary**

**Axis – An imaginary line about which a body rotates**

**Day – A twenty-four hour period, from one midnight to the next, corresponding to a rotation of the earth on its axis**

**Dwarf planet – A celestial body resembling a small planet but lacking certain technical criteria to be classed as a planet e.g. Pluto**

**Cellestial – a natural object located outside of the Earth’s atmosphere.**

**Geocentric – People once believed the Earth was centre of the Solar system**

**Heliocentric – The sun is the centre of the solar system.**

**Moon – A natural satellite of any planet**

**Night – The period from sunset to sunrise in each twenty-four hours**

**Orbit – The regularly repeated oval course of a celestial object around a star or planet**

**Planet – A celestial body moving in orbit round a star**

**Rotation – The action of rotating about an axis or centre**

**Solar system – The collection of eight planets and their moons in orbit round the sun**

**Star – A fixed luminous point in the night sky which is a large, remote body like the sun**

**Sun – The star round which planets orbit**

**Famous Scientists**

* Ptolemy
* Alhazen
* Copernicus
* Brian Cox

**Working Scientifically**

* What apparatus or techniques may we need to use?
* How will we take measures?
* How will we record data?
* Can we use a diagram?
* Make a prediction before undertaking a test.

Our Solar System

**Phases of the moon**

**Earth and Space**