Year 5 – Earth and Space

Language for Learning

Through the activities in this topic pupils should **understand and precisely use key scientific words - spelling these words correctly**. This includes - words with **different meanings** in scientific and everyday contexts (e.g. drag), words with **precise** scientific meanings (e.g. weight and mass) and words relating to **scientific enquiry** (e.g. variable).

	Key Scientific Words
Key Word	Definition (Meaning)
Earth	The planet we live on
Sun	The star that the Earth orbits
A moon	A large object orbiting a planet
The Moon	The moon that orbits Earth
Orbit	The path that an object takes around another object
Sphere/ Spherical	Shaped like a ball
Day	The time it takes a planet to spin once on its axis. On Earth - this is 24 hours
Year	The time it takes a planet to orbit the Sun. On Earth - this is 365.25 days
Phases of the Moon	The different shapes the moon appears to have
Asteroid	A small rocky object
Axis	An imaginary line that goes from one pole of the Earth to the other. The Earth spins around its axis

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Key Concepts

We live on planet Earth. The Earth spins on its axis once every 24 hours.

The Sun is a star. The Earth orbits the Sun once every 365.25 days.

An orbit is the path an object takes as it travels around another object

The Earth receives light from the Sun. It is not safe to look directly at the Sun, even when wearing dark glasses

The side of the Earth facing the Sun has **daylight** - and it is **night** on the side facing away from the Sun. As the Earth spins on its axis we get both day and night. The Earth's spin also makes it appear that the **Sun** moves across the sky



The Moon orbits the Earth. It orbits Earth once every 28 days.

The Sun, Earth and Moon are roughly spherical.

The Moon seems to change shape. The different shapes are called **phases of the Moon**. The phases happen because we cannot always see all of the part of the Moon that is lit by the Sun.

There are eight planets orbiting the Sun. Most of the planets have moons. The Sun, the planets, the moons and other objects make up the Solar System.

The eight planets are Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune.



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