

Key facts:

It takes 365 $\frac{1}{4}$ days for the Earth to orbit the sun.

It takes 27 days for the moon to orbit the Earth.

It takes 24 hours for the Earth to spin on its axis.



Key Vocabulary:

Celestial body- an object that exists outside the Earth's atmosphere

Solar system- a collection of planets and their moons in orbit around the sun.

Waxing – when the moon is going towards a full moon.

Waning- when the moon is going towards a new moon.

Gibbous- more than half of the moon is illuminated.

Crescent- less than half of the moon is illuminated.

Illuminated- lit up.

Spherical- shaped liked a sphere.

Rotation- the action of rotating.

Orbit- to go around

Eclipse- a block of light from one celestial body by another moving between it and the sun.

Dwarf planet- a celestial body that is not large enough to have its own gravitational pull.

Geocentric- the Earth is at the centre of our solar system.

Heliocentric- the sun is at the centre of our solar system.

Sundials- an instrument showing the time by shadows.

Astronomical- relating to astronomy

Astronomy- science which looks at space.

Reflection- bounce back of light.

Telescope- a piece of equipment that makes distant object appear nearer.

Axis- an imaginary line by which a body rotates.

Gravity- a force which attracts a body towards the centre of the Earth.

Opaque- not able to see through it.

Transparent- able to see through it.

Translucent- allows some light through but not showing detailed shapes.

