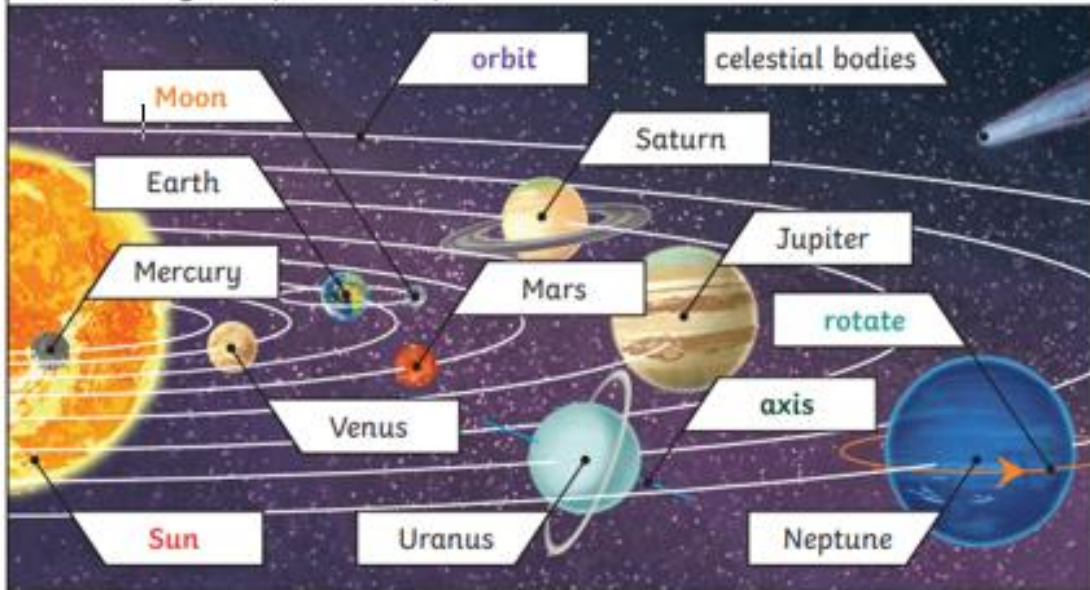


Our Solar System (not to scale)



The **Moon** orbits Earth in an oval-shaped path while spinning on its **axis**. At various times in a month, the **Moon** appears to be different shapes. This is because as the **Moon** rotates round Earth, the **Sun** lights up different parts of it.

Earth **rotates** (spins) on its **axis**. It does a full **rotation** once in every 24 hours. At the same time that Earth is **rotating**, it is also **orbiting** (revolving) around the **Sun**. It takes a little more than 365 days to **orbit** the **Sun**. Daytime occurs when the side of Earth is facing towards the **Sun**. Night occurs when the side of Earth is facing away from the **Sun**.



The first humans went to space in the 1960s as part of a technological race between the USA and the USSR.

The first person walked on the moon in 1969.

OUT OF THIS WORLD

Key Vocabulary

orbit	To move in a regular, repeating curved path around another object.
rotate	To spin. E.g. Earth rotates on its own axis .
axis	An imaginary line that a body rotates around. E.g. Earth's axis (imaginary line) runs from the North Pole to the South Pole.
Sun	A huge star that Earth and the other planets in our solar system orbit around.
star	A giant ball of gas held together by its own gravity.
moon	A natural satellite which orbits Earth or other planets .
planet	A large object, round or nearly round, that orbits a star .
sphere	A round 3D shape in the shape of a ball.