

Earth and Space: Lesson 1

Introduction

Science KS2 Year 5



Earth and Space: Introduction Lesson

Science

**Key Stage 2
Year 5**

Learning Aim:

- to learn about the solar system, to learn that the Earth, sun and moon are spherical in shape

Curriculum Link:

- describe the Sun, Earth and Moon as approximately spherical bodies

Keyword Vocabulary

Earth. Sun. Moon. Mercury. Jupiter. Saturn. Venus. Mars. Uranus. Neptune. Spherical. Solar System. Rotate. Star. Orbit. Planets.

These can also be found at the end of this PDF.

Earth

Saturn

Orbit



A worksheet for children to describe the orbits of planet Earth around the sun, and the moon around the Earth is on page 5 of this PDF.

PowerPoint Presentation

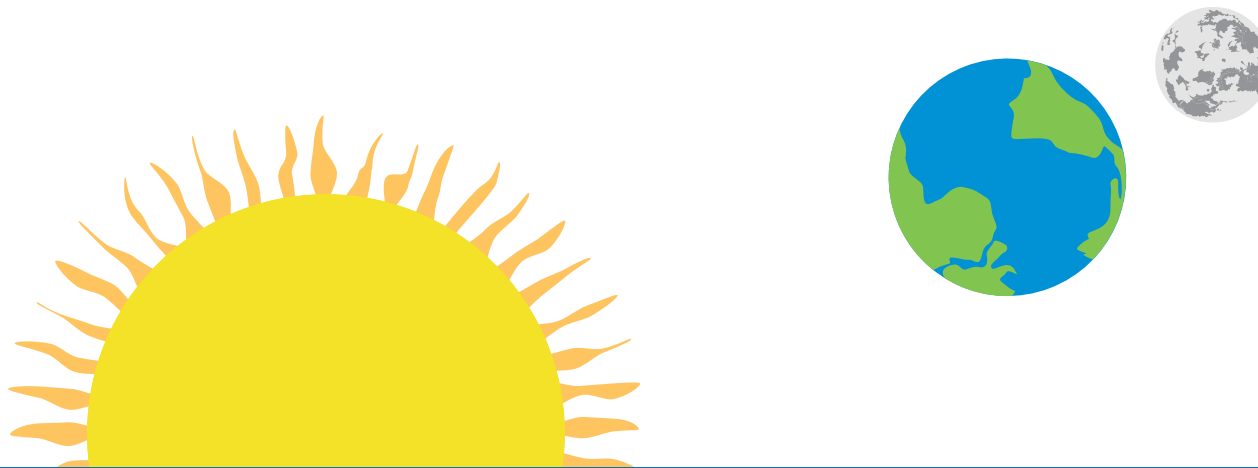
The accompanying PowerPoint presentation has the following learning points, as listed below:

- Slides 1 and 2 introduce the lesson.
- Slide 3 asks the children what they know about the solar system. This can be used as an opportunity for classroom discussion.
- Slide 4 introduces the eight planets in our solar system.
- Slide 5 reiterates that the Earth is a planet.
- Slide 6 explains that the sun is a star, gives a brief description of what a star is, along with a safety warning that children should not look directly at the sun, even when wearing sunglasses.
- Slide 7 explains that the planets in the solar system travel along their own orbit around the sun.
- Slide 8 introduces Pluto, the 'dwarf planet'.
- Slides 9 and 10 talk about the moon.
- Slides 11 to 13 explain that all three celestial bodies are spherical shapes.
- Slides 14 and 15 touch upon our historical understanding of the solar system. In ancient times, we did not know much about the solar system. However, some ancient Greek astronomers had worked out that the sun went around the Earth. Urban myth: The view that most thought the earth was flat in the olden days is in fact untrue. Most educated people knew that the earth was round. Astronomers like Copernicus and Galileo led to our modern understanding of the solar system.
- Slide 16 explains that the Earth rotates as it travels on its orbit around the sun.
- Slide 17 describes the moon's orbit around Planet Earth.



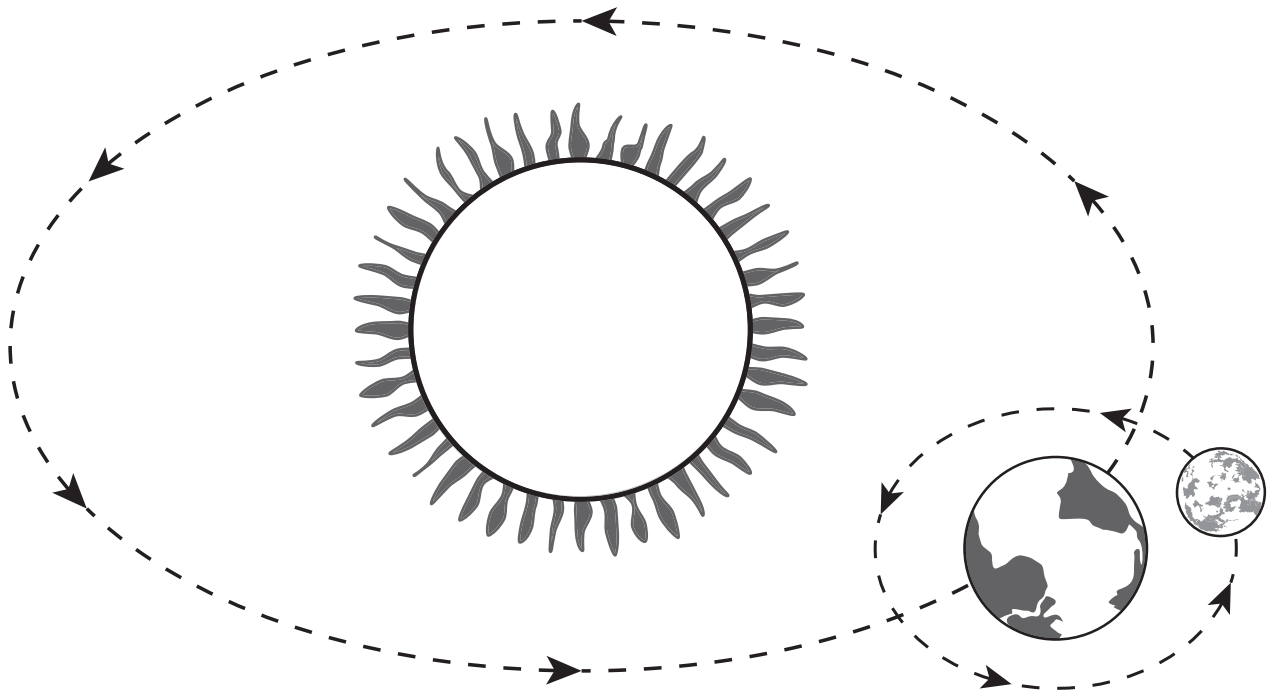
Activity

- Slides 18 to 19 introduce the activity: the children act out the movements of the Earth and moon. Ask the children to work in threes to act out the movements of the Earth and the moon in relation to the sun and to each other.
- Slide 20 explains how much larger the sun is than the earth. The sun's diameter is 109 times the diameter of Earth.
- Slide 21 introduces an interesting video to give children a sense of the scale. Introduce the term 'scale' before sharing this video.
- Slide 22 recaps the learning of the lesson.



The Earth and the moon

Label the diagram to indicate and explain the movement of the Earth and the moon. Underneath, explain what you know about the sun, the Earth and the moon.



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Earth and Space: Keywords Flashcards



Earth

Sun

Moon

Mercury

Jupiter

Saturn

Venus

Mars

Uranus



Earth and Space: Keywords Flashcards



Neptune

Spherical

**Solar
system**

Rotate

Star

Orbit

Planets



Earth



Sun



Moon



Mercury



Jupiter



Saturn



Venus



Mars



Uranus



Neptune



Spherical



Solar system



Rotate



Star



Orbit



Planets

