

What do these words mean?

Earth

Year

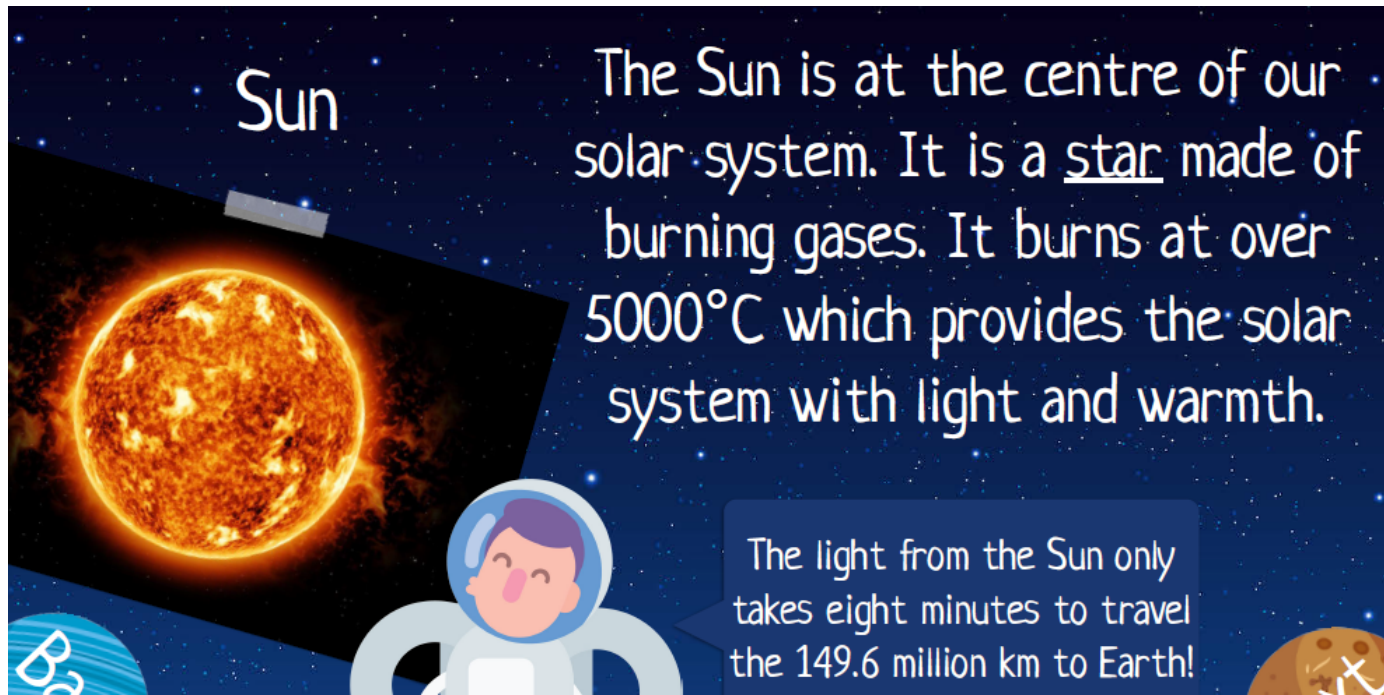
Sun

Moon

Orbit

Month

Roughly Spherical




The infographic features a central illustration of the Sun, a bright orange-yellow sphere with a textured surface, set against a dark blue space background with white stars. The word "Sun" is written in white above the Sun. To the left, a portion of a blue and white striped planet is visible with the letter "B". To the right, a portion of a brown planet with white spots is visible with the letter "X". In the foreground, a cartoon astronaut with purple hair and a white helmet is looking towards the Sun. A large white text block on the right contains the main description of the Sun. A smaller white text box with a blue background and a pointer to the astronaut contains information about the travel time of light from the Sun to Earth.

Sun

The Sun is at the centre of our solar system. It is a star made of burning gases. It burns at over 5000°C which provides the solar system with light and warmth.

The light from the Sun only takes eight minutes to travel the 149.6 million km to Earth!

Sun



The Sun is the biggest object in our solar system. It makes up 98% of the total mass!

The Sun has a roughly spherical shape which is about 1,400,000 km in diameter. Earth has a diameter of just over 13,500 km. This means the Sun could fit 1,300,000 Earths inside it!

roughly spherical: adj. roughly shaped like a ball

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Earth



Earth is a planet. It is the third planet from the Sun and is the only one which has the correct conditions to sustain human life (us!).

Earth is also roughly spherical in shape. We say 'roughly' because we know that no planets, moons or stars are perfect spheres.



planet: noun. A celestial body which orbits around a star

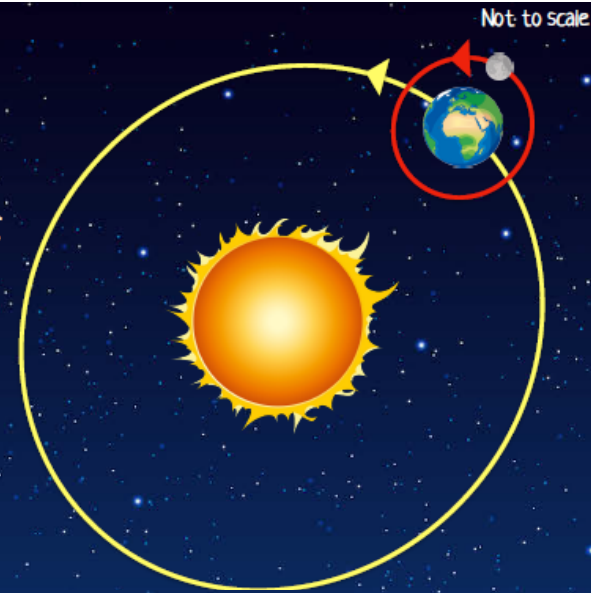
Moon

The Moon is a special celestial object called a natural satellite. This means it is a naturally occurring object (not man-made) which orbits a planet. The Moon orbits Earth but doesn't have anything orbiting it.



The Moon is also, you guessed it, roughly spherical in shape. It is about a quarter of the size of Earth.

An orbit is a repeating path that an object in space takes around another, larger object. The path of an orbit is normally elliptical or oval shaped, rather than a perfect circle.



Earth and the Moon, as well as the other planets in the solar system, orbit in an anticlockwise direction.

Can I describe the Sun, Earth and Moon?

What shape are the Sun, Earth and Moon?

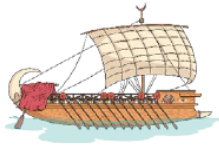
What shape are the Sun, Earth and Moon?

How do we know they are spheres?

What research has been done to show this?

 <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/clips/zd3fb9q>

Evidence that the Sun, Moon and Earth are spherical objects:



Sailors made observations about the position of the Sun and stars.



Observations of ships sailing across the horizon.



Shadows cast by the Earth on the Moon during a lunar eclipse.



Ships have sailed all the way around the world.



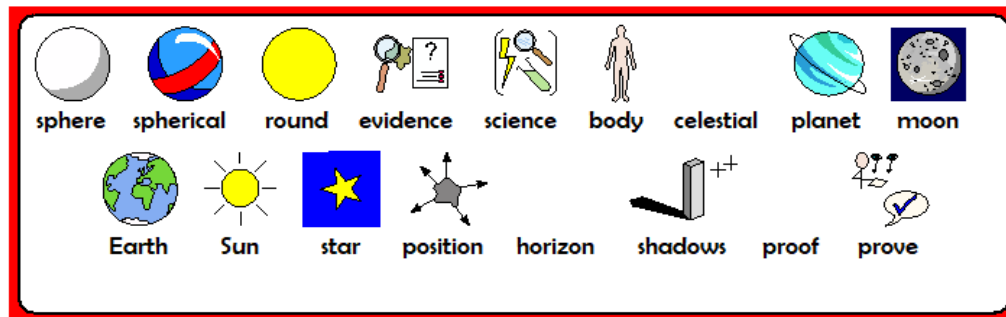
Planes have flown around the world and never seen the edge.



Pictures of Earth viewed from Space.

You are now going to design a poster to prove that the Sun, Moon and Earth are all spherical.

Words you need to use include:



Sentence starters:
It was believed that ____ Some people think that ____
In the past ____ The evidence supports the idea ____
The evidence from ____ shows ____
In addition, there is evidence ____
It is clear from the evidence of ____ that ____

