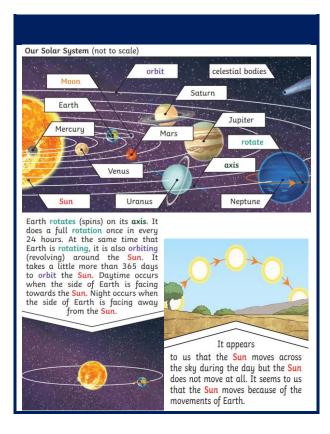
Key Learning Autumn 1 2023

- The Sun is a star. It is at the centre of our solar system.
- There are 8 planets. These travel around the Sun in fixed orbits.
- Earth takes 365¼ days to complete its orbit around the Sun.
- The Earth rotates (spins) on its axis every 24 hours.
- As Earth rotates half faces the Sun (day) and half is facing away from the Sun (night).
- As the Earth rotates, the Sun appears to move across the sky.
- The Moon orbits the Earth. It takes about 28 days to complete its orbit.
- The Sun, Earth and Moon are approximately spherical.

Investigation Questions

Year 6: Earth and Space





Key Scientific Vocabulary	Key	Scien	tific '	Voca	bular	V
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Sun The star that provides light and heat for the earth and around which the earth moves The round object that moves in the sky Moon around the earth and can be seen at night The planet third in order of Earth distance from the sun; the world on which we live Extremely large, round masses of rock **Planets** and metal, such as Earth, or of gas, such as Jupiter, that move in circular paths around the sun or another star (Mercury, Jupiter, Saturn, Venus, Mars, Uranus, Neptune) Spherical Round, like a ball The sun and the group of planets that Solar System move around it Rotate To turn or cause something to turn in a circle A very large ball of burning gas in Star space that is usually seen from the

earth as a point of light in the sky at

Common Misconceptions

How does the movement of the earth around		Some children may think:		night
the sun affect time?		• the Earth is flat	orbit	The curved path through which objects
		• the Sun is a planet		in space move around a planet or star
		 the Sun rotates around the Earth 		
		• the Sun moves across the sky during the day •		
		the Sun rises in the morning and sets in the		
	evening			
		 the Moon appears only at night 		
		 night is caused by the Moon getting in the 		
		way of the Sun or the Sun moving further away		
		from the Earth.		