

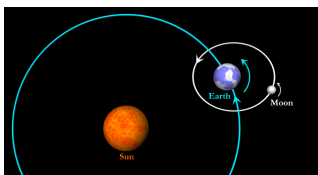
### What should I already know?

- We have four seasons (autumn, winter, spring and summer).
- The Sun is a source of light but the Moon is not.
- Know that a shadow is caused when an object blocks light from passing through it.
- The properties of a sphere.

### Vocabulary

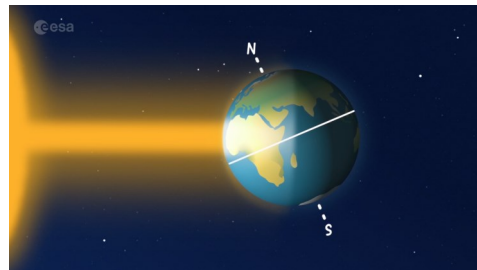
Axis	An imaginary line through the middle of something
Planet	A large, round object in space that moves around a star
Orbit	The curved path in space that is followed by an object going round and round a planet, moon, or star
Shadow	A dark shape on a surface that is made when something stands between a light and the surface
Solar System	The Sun and all the planets that go round it
Sphere	An object that is round in shape like a ball
Star	A large ball of burning gas in space
Universe	The whole of space and all the stars, planets, and other forms of matter and energy in it
Galaxy	An extremely large group of stars and planets. Our galaxy is called the Milky Way
Gravity	The force which causes things to drop to the ground
Eclipse	When the Moon passes between the Sun and Earth, the shadow cast by the Moon falls on the Earth's surface and we would no longer be able to see the Sun.

- The Sun, Earth and Moon are approximately spherical.
- The Earth orbits the Sun.
- The Moon orbits Earth.

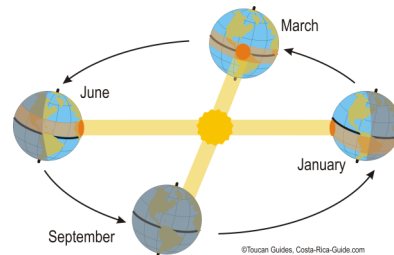


### What will I know by the end of the unit?

- The Earth rotates on its axis anti-clockwise and makes a complete rotation over 24 hours (a day).
- This makes it appear as the Sun moves through the sky but the Earth's rotation causes day and night.
- Different parts of the Earth experience daylight at different times - this means that it is morning, afternoon and night in different places. This is also the reason why we have time zones.
- Because of the Earth's tilt, the poles experience 24 hours of sunlight in the summer, and very few hours of sunlight in the winter.
- As the Earth rotates, shadows that are formed change in size and orientation.



- The Earth takes 365 and a quarter days to orbit the Sun.
- Because of the extra quarter day it takes to orbit the Sun, every four years on Earth is a leap year!
- It is the Earth's tilt that causes the seasons.



- There are 8 planets in our Solar System (Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune).
- Pluto is a dwarf planet.
- They all orbit the Sun, which is a star, and they all have moons.

