

# Stargazers

## Key Facts:

- The solar system is made up of a collection of planets, their moons and smaller objects such as dwarf planets, asteroids, meteoroids and comets.
- There are 8 planets in our solar system.
- The 4 planets closest to the sun are made up almost entirely of rock.
- The 4 planets furthest away are mostly made up of gases.
- Night and day occur because the earth rotates on its axis.
- When viewed from above, the Earth rotates anti-clockwise which is why the sun always rises in the east and sets in the west.
- The sun is a star at the centre of the solar system.
- The sun is 5500 degrees Celsius and in the centre of the sun it is 15.5 million degrees Celsius.
- The sun is important because it provides light, heat and energy for the plants and animals that live on Earth.
- Gravity is a force that pulls objects towards each other.
- On Earth, gravity pulls all things to the centre and keeps everything on the ground.
- The moon is a natural satellite.
- The moon orbits the Earth every 27 days
- The surface of the moon is covered with craters.
- There is no atmosphere or life on the moon.
- The moon reflects the light of the sun and looks different every day depending on how much of the reflected surface is seen from Earth.



## Isaac Newton

- Formed his theory of gravity when he watched an apple fall from a tree
- A Newton (N) is a unit of measurement used to measure the force of gravity.

## Galileo Galilei

- Was an Italian scientist and inventor who proved that the Earth orbits the Sun.
- In 1609, he invented a telescope that he used to observe the craters and mountains on the moon.
- He also discovered the 4 moons orbiting Jupiter.

## Key Words:

- sun
- moon
- planets (Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune)
- Pluto
- star
- solar system
- dwarf planet
- orbit
- rotate
- axis
- day
- night
- eclipse
- satellite
- universe
- solar
- astronomer
- sundial
- gravity
- asteroids
- meteoroids
- comets
- constellation
- crescent moon
- half moon
- Apollo 11
- NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration)

## Neil Armstrong

- Neil Armstrong was the first human to walk on the moon during the Apollo 11 mission on 20<sup>th</sup> July 1969.
- He completed the mission alongside co-pilots Edwin E. "Buzz" Aldrin and Michael Collins.

