

Vocabulary	Meaning
solar system	consists of the sun and everything that orbits, or travels around, the sun
gravity	the force by which a planet or other body draws objects towards its centre
orbit	the curved path of a celestial object round a star, planet or moon
planet	a large celestial body moving in orbit round a star
dwarf	a star of relatively small size and low light
heliocentric	the idea that the Earth and other planets revolve around the Sun, which is the centre of the solar system
axis	an imaginary line about which a body rotates
orbit	the curved path of a celestial object round a star, planet or moon
rotate	spin in a circle around an axis
tilt	to lean to one side so it is positioned with one end or side higher than the other
atmosphere	the layer of gases around the Earth that is held in place by Earth's gravity
satellite	an object in space that moves around a planet or star
crater	a very large hole in the ground which has been caused by something hitting it or by an explosion

Key knowledge – what is a shadow?



A shadow is a dark area where light from a light source is blocked by an object that you can not see through (opaque).

Key knowledge – What is the difference between terrestrial and gas planets?



A terrestrial planet is a planet that is composed primarily of rocks or metals and a gas planet is a giant planet composed mainly of the gases hydrogen and helium.

Key knowledge –



Meteorites are pieces of rock and metal that fall to Earth from space. Most meteorites come from the break-up of small asteroids that never came together to form a planet. Meteorites give us clues about the Solar System.