## What should I already know?

- I can explain the changes that occur across the four seasons.
- I can describe the weather associated with the seasons and how day length varies.

|  | Vocabulary |
| :---: | :---: |
| Earth | Our planet, part of the solar system. It is the third planet from the sun. |
| Sun | The star at the centre of our solar system. |
| Moon | A natural satellite that orbits Earth. |
| star | Giant spheres of super hot gas in space that can be seen in the |
| spherical | Round in shape like a ball. |
| solar system | The Sun and all the planets that go around it. |
| rotates | Turn about an axis or centre. |
| orbit | The curved path in space that is followed by an object going round and round a planet, a moon or a star. |
| planets | Large round objects in space that move around a star. |

## The Sun and the Moon



The sun is a star: a huge ball of hot gas that gives off light and heat.
The Earth and all of the planets in the Solar System orbit the Sun.
It take the Earth just over 365 days to make one complete orbit around the sun this is one year. The Earth and the other planets are held in place around the Sun by gravity - the same force that keeps you on the Earth!
The Earth is always spinning around. When a point on Earth is facing the Sun, it is daytime. When facing away, it is night time. It takes 24 hours for the Earth to complete a spin. As it rotates, the Sun appears to move across the sky.
Some objects orbit around the planets. These are called moons. The Earth has one moon. The Moon is much smaller than the Earth. It takes 28 days to complete its orbit.
The Sun, Earth and Moon are all roughly spherical.

## Planet Facts

The Solar System includes the Sun at its centre and 8 planets that orbit around it. There are also 5 dwarf planets.

| Mercury | Venus | Earth | Mars | Jupiter | Saturn | Uranus | Neptune |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Area: | Area: | Area: | Area: | Area: | Area: | Area: | Area: |
| 0.147 Earths | 0.902 Earths | 1 Earth! | 0.284 Earths | 121.9 Earths | 83.7 Earths | 15.91 Earths | 14.98 Earths |
| 8 th Largest | 6th Largest | 5 th Largest | 7 th Largest | 1 st Largest | 2nd Largest | 3rd Largest | 4th Largest |
| Moons: | Moons: | Moons: | Moons: | Moons: | Moons: | Moons: | Moons: |
| None | None | 1 Moon | 2 Moons | Around 80 | Around 65 | Around 30 | None |
| Length of Day: | Length of Day: | Length of Day: | Length of Day: | Length of Day: | Length of Day: | Length of Day: | Length of Day: |
| 1,408 hours | 5,832 hours | 24 hours | 25 hours | 10 hours | 11 hours | 17 hours | 16 hours |
| Length of | Length of | Length of | Length of | Length of | Length of | Length of | Length of |
| Year: 88 days | Year: 225 days | Year: 365 days | Year: 687 days | Year: 12 years | Year: 29 years | Year: 84 years | Year: 165 years |

