

# MOON, STARS AND PLANETS

## The Moon

The moon moves around the Earth.

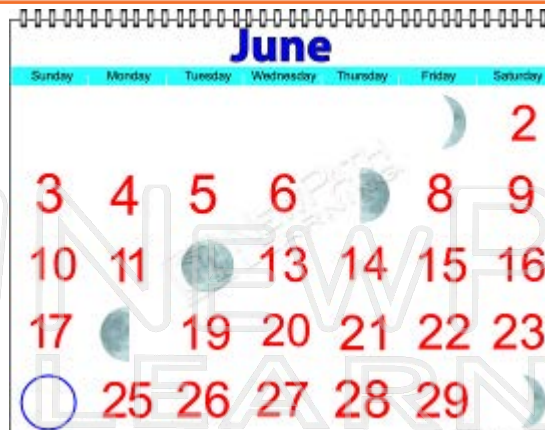
The moon is not a planet.

Earth has one moon. Some other planets have no moons, some only have one moon, and some have many moons.



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This daily change in what we see of the Moon is called the **Moon's phases**. A new moon can't be seen on Earth. The side of the moon that is facing the Earth is not lit by Sun. The entire Moon phase cycle takes about 29 1/2 days.

*Let's check what we have learned so far:  
What are the daily changes of the moon called?*

## Stars

A **star** is a hot ball of gas.

**Stars** give off light.

The **Sun** is a star.



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A **planet** is a large object that orbits around the sun.

**Orbit** means to go around in a path around something.

Planets do not give off light. They just reflect sunlight.

**Reflect** means to bounce off of.

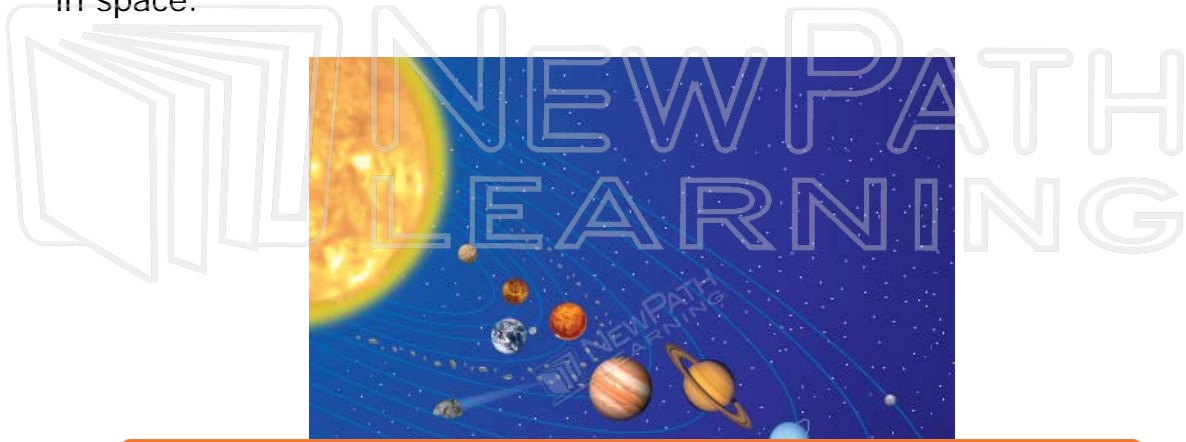
There are **8 planets in our solar system**: Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune. Pluto used to be considered a planet but it is now known by scientists as a dwarf planet.

A **telescope** helps us see stars. It is a tool that makes things that are far away look close.

*Let's check what we have learned so far:  
What is a planet?*

## What is the solar system?

The solar system is the sun, all planets, their moons, and other objects in space.



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**Venus:** It is the 2nd planet from the Sun.  
It is smaller than Earth.



**Earth:** It is the 3rd planet from the Sun.



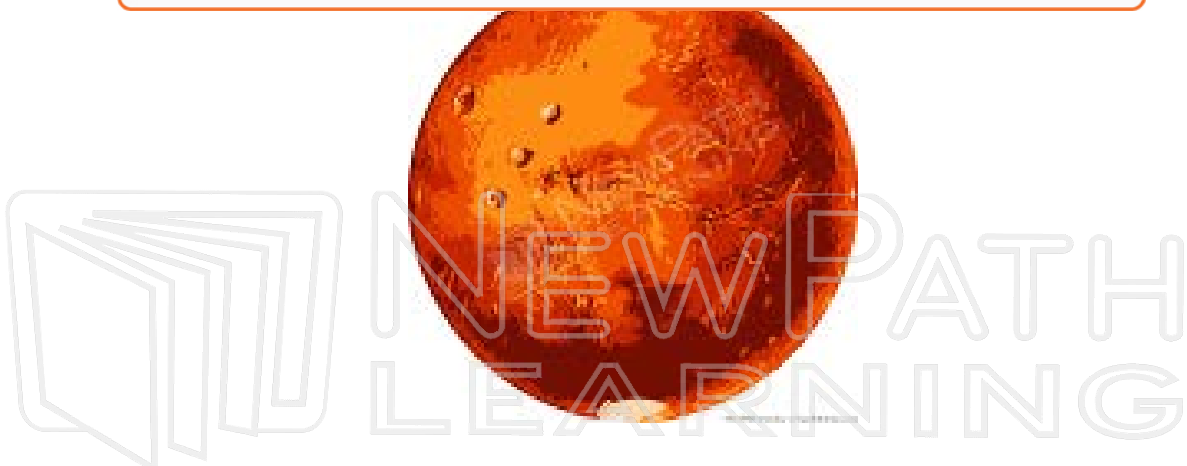
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It is

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**Jupiter:** It is the 5<sup>th</sup> planet from the Sun.  
It is made of gases.  
It is the **largest** planet in the solar system.  
It is known for its large red spot.



Sat



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**Uranus:** It is the 7<sup>th</sup> planet from the Sun.  
It is a blue planet.



It looks like it spins on its side.

**Neptune:** It is the 8<sup>th</sup> planet from the Sun.  
It is the farthest planet from the Sun.  
It is the coldest planet of the solar system.



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