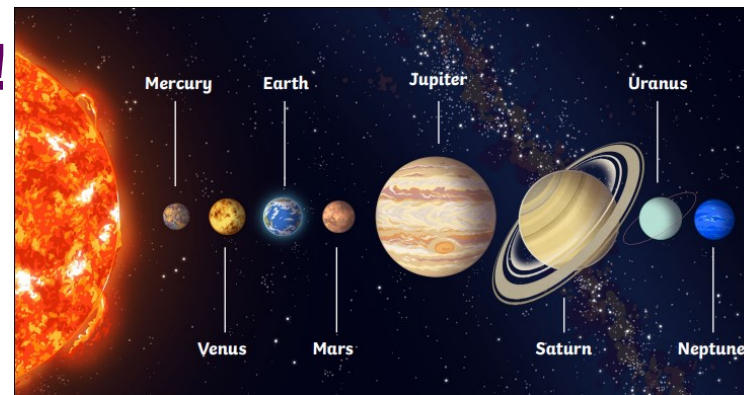


Y5 Spring Snapshot: Reach for the Stars!



Key Vocabulary	
Asteroid	Rocks floating around in space. Some are the size of a truck. Others are hundreds of miles across.
Astronomy	The study of the Universe and everything in it.
Astronomer	Someone who studies or is an expert in astronomy (space science).
Atmosphere	The gases held by gravity around Earth and around other planets. "Atmosphere" can also be used to talk about gases around stars.
Gravity	A force that pulls matter together.
Moon	A natural object that travels around a bigger natural object.
Orbit	The curved path that a planet, satellite, or spacecraft moves as it circles around another object.
Planet	A large body in outer space that circles around the sun or another star.
Satellite	A natural or manmade object that orbits another object. A moon is actually a satellite.
Solar system	A set that includes a star and all of the matter that orbits it, including planets, moons, asteroids, comets, and other objects.
Star	A giant ball of gas held together by its own gravity.
Sun	A huge star that Earth and the other planets in our solar system orbit around.

Key Knowledge
<p>The solar system has one star, eight planets, five dwarf planets, at least 290 moons, more than 1.3 million asteroids, and about 3,900 comets!</p> <p>The inner, rocky planets are Mercury, Venus, Earth, and Mars. These are known as terrestrial planets because they have solid surfaces. Mercury, Earth, and Mars are currently being explored by spacecraft. Two rovers are on the surface of Mars.</p> <p>The outer planets are gas giants Jupiter and Saturn, and ice giants Uranus and Neptune.</p> <p>Earth rotates (spins) on its axis. It does a full rotation once every 24 hours. At the same time that Earth is rotating, it is also orbiting around the sun. It takes a little more than 365 days to orbit the sun. Daytime occurs when the side of the Earth is facing towards the sun. Night occurs when the side of the Earth is facing away from the sun.</p>
Key Figures
Neil Armstrong: the first man to set foot on the moon.
Valentina Tereshkova: the first woman in Space.
Mae Jamison: the first Black woman to travel into space
Katherine Johnson: mathematician who helped NASA send astronauts into space.