Knowledge Organiser for Year 5: The Earth in Space

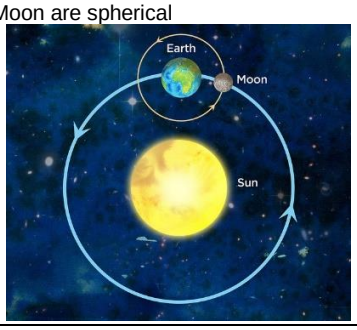
Key ideas:

- Describe the movement of the Earth, and other planets, relative to the Sun in the solar system
- Describe the movement of the Moon relative to the Earth
- Describe the Sun, Earth and Moon as approximately spherical bodies
- Use the idea of the Earth's rotation to explain day and night and the apparent movement of the sun across the sky

Tier 3 vocabulary	
Rotation	The action of rotating about an axis or centre.
Axis	An imaginary line about which a body rotates.
Celestial	Positioned in or relating to the sky, or outer space as observed in the astronomy.
Dwarf planet	A celestial body resembling a small planet but lacking certain technical criteria to be classed as a planet e.g. Pluto.
Geocentric	Where people believed the earth was at the centre of the solar system.
Heliocentric	Representing the sun as the centre of the solar system, the modern view of the solar system.
Orbit	The regularly repeated oval course of a celestial object around a star or planet.
Tier 2 vocabulary	
Sphere	An object shaped like a round ball.
Evidence:	body of facts or information indicating whether a belief or proposition is true or valid.
Day	A twenty-four-hour period, from one midnight to the next, corresponding to a rotation of the earth on its axis.
Night	The period from sunset to sunrise in each twenty-four hours.
Moon	A natural satellite of any planet.
Solar system	The collection of eight planets and their moons in orbit round the sun.
Planet	A celestial body moving in orbit round a star.
Star	A fixed luminous point in the night sky which is a large, remote body like the sun.

Knowledge Item 1

The Sun, Earth and Moon are spherical



Knowledge Item 2

There is scientific evidence that has been used to support the idea that the world is a sphere and not flat.

Knowledge Item 3

All objects in the Solar System orbit the Sun; that is, they move around the Sun in elliptical paths. Moreover, the orbits of these objects lie roughly in the same plane, called the ecliptic plane.

Knowledge Item 4

We get day and night because the Earth spins (or rotates) on an imaginary line called its axis and different parts of the planet are facing towards the Sun or away from it. It takes 24 hours for the world to turn all the way around, and we call this a day. Over a year, the length of the daytime in the part of the Earth where you live changes. Days are longer in the summer and shorter in the winter.

Knowledge Item 5

The Moon moves around the Earth in a movement called **revolution**. This is very similar to Earth's revolution around the Sun. The path the Moon takes to go all the way around the Earth is called its **orbit**. It takes about 27 days for the Moon to revolve around the Earth once.