

The Earth and Beyond

Key Vocabulary and Definitions

Solar System – The part of Space where the sun and the planets, including Earth are

Gravity – The force which pulls things to the Earth

Star – A burning gas that shines in Space

Astronaut – Somebody who's job is to go into Space to find out more about the different planets

The Sun – The biggest star in our solar system which all the planets go around

Earth – The name of the planet we live on

We will also talk about the other names of the planets

Moon – A smaller thing similar to a planet which goes around the Earth

Orbit – When something goes around something in a big circle

Day time – The time when the sun makes our part of the world light.

These words will be covered with the children both discretely and explicitly during our topic.

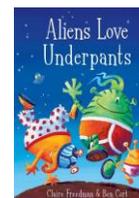
Focus Texts*



Whatever Next! - This book has been selected to begin to look at the setting of a story with the children. As the setting changes based on Baby Bear's imagination we can begin to explore imaginative play with the children and how they have the power to change their story setting whenever they choose.



Astro Girl - We want to promote positive role models for all of our children and selected this text to challenge the gender stereotype of an astronaut. This book will also be used to support discussions about different roles of people in society. This book also gives us the scope to introduce the concept of Space beyond the Earth to children.



Aliens Love Underpants - Continuing with our settings theme, we have selected this text to give the alternative setting of the Moon then moving to Earth. This book also gives us the opportunity to investigate patterns with the children to support their maths development.

Big ideas we want to explore

We all live on a round planet called Earth - We want the children to know that they live on a planet called Earth and this is where all humans live. We will discuss the colours of Earth and why we can see these colours from Space. We will also discuss that Earth is the only planet which has water and think about why this is important for us.

Gravity is a very important force - We will explore what gravity is and how it helps us. We will also look at what would happen without gravity and what it would be like to live in Space.

All of the planets are different - We will look at the colours of the different planets in the Solar System and discuss what it is like on them. However, we are also keen to emphasise to the children that all people live on Earth and we don't think there is life on any other planets.

Scientists are still learning more about Space - We will look at the jobs of Astronauts and scientists and explore how they work in Space. We will discuss why this is important for us on Earth. We hope to inspire children's future aspirations through broadening their understanding of careers involving Space.

- The children's knowledge will be further developed through a range of both fiction and non-fiction texts to support these.