

The Earth in the Solar System | class 6th | old NCERT

Introduction:-

Look up at the night sky! You will see the moon, stars, and sometimes a bright moving object. Ever wondered what they are? Our Earth is part of a big space family that moves around the Sun. This family is called the **Solar System**. The Sun gives us light and heat, making life possible on Earth. Let's learn more about our place in this vast universe!

Solar System:-

When we look at the sky at night, we see the **moon, stars, and planets**. But do you know what they are and how they are connected?

- The **Solar System** is like a big space family with the **Sun** at the center.
- The **planets, moons, asteroids, and other celestial bodies** move around the Sun in fixed paths called **orbits**.
- Our Earth is one of these planets.

The Sun – The Center of the Solar System

- The **Sun** is a huge and a hot ball of gases.
- Its gravity **binds all the bodies together**, keeping them in their orbits.
- It gives **light and heat**, making life possible on Earth.
- It is **nearest star** to Earth but still about **150 million km** away.

Stars and Constellations:-

- Like the sun, there are millions of stars in the sky.
- **Stars** are big balls of fire that shine on their own.
- Some stars form patterns in the sky called **constellations**, like **Saptarishi**.
 - Saptarishi is the group of seven stars. It forms a part of [Ursa Major Constellation](#).
 - **Note:-** *Ursa Major* is also called *the Great bear*. It is in the Northern sky. It helps in navigation. Furthermore, people in ancient times used this as a symbol for finding directions at night.
- The **North Star** or The **Pole Star** stays fixed and helps travelers find directions.

Planets:-

- **Planets** are large celestial bodies.
- They move around the Sun in fixed paths (orbit).
- They do not have their own light.

- There are **eight planets** in the Solar System.
 - Earth is one of the planets and the only one known to have life.
 - **Earth** is the third planet from the Sun.
 - Its shape is Geoid and it is the fifth largest planet.
 - It has air, water, and land, making it perfect for living beings.
- Planets are:- **Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune.**

The Moon:-

- Moon is a only natural satellite of the Earth. (*because it moves around the Earth*)
- It shines because of the **Sun's** light.
- It is about **3,84,400 km** away from our mother earth.
- Moreover, Its diameter is only one-quarter that of Earth.
- It takes **about 27 days** to complete one orbit around Earth.
- Additionally, It changes shape every night, from a **full moon** to a **new moon**.
 - A **Full Moon (Purnima)** is when we see the entire moon shining brightly in the sky.
 - A **New Moon (Amavasya)** is when the moon is not visible at all.
- **Note:-** The change in shape is seen because sunlight falls on the moon differently.

Satellites – Natural and Human-Made

- A **natural satellite** moves around a planet, like the moon around Earth.
- And, **Human-made satellites** help in communication, weather study, and research.

Space Rocks:-

- **Asteroids** are rocky objects mostly found between Mars and Jupiter.
- **Meteoroids** are space rocks that sometimes fall to Earth, looking like shooting stars.

The Universe:-

- Our **Solar System** is part of the **Milky Way Galaxy**.
- The **Universe** has countless galaxies, making it unimaginably huge.
 - A **galaxy** is a huge group of **stars, planets, gases, and dust** held together by gravity.

The chapter is now complete! I hope each concept was easy for you to understand and you feel confident about the material. Feel free to share your feedback and comments on the notes posted. Your thoughts are always welcome!

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