

Earth, Sun & Moon: Day and Night

Develop an age-appropriate model of day and night and distinguish the Sun, Earth and Moon.

LEARN • PRACTISE • CREATE • REFLECT

Original BrightPencil Kids resource - adult-led where appropriate

A4 edition • 12 purposeful pages • review copy

Print. Learn. Grow.

Grown-up guide

Learning objective

Develop an age-appropriate model of day and night and distinguish the Sun, Earth and Moon.

Use this pack well

- Model the first example aloud, then let the learner try.
- Ask “How do you know?” more often than “Are you finished?”.
- Use real objects, talk, movement or observation when the activity suggests it.
- Stop or shorten the session if attention or enjoyment drops.
- Open-ended pages can have many successful answers.

Quality note

This resource was written originally for BrightPencil Kids. Curriculum sources informed scope and progression only; no third-party worksheet or story text is reproduced.

Learn the idea

1 The Sun is a star that gives Earth light and heat.

2 Earth rotates; the side facing the Sun experiences daylight.

3 The Moon orbits Earth and reflects sunlight.

Talk about it

Explain one idea in your own words. Give an example from real life, a drawing or an object if that helps.

Label Sun, Earth and Moon in a simple diagram.

Use a ball and torch model to show one side lit and one side dark.

Explain why the Sun only appears to move across the sky from our viewpoint.

Sort statements into Sun/Earth/Moon.

Sequence morning, midday, evening and night using a rotation model.

Try it beyond the page

Real-world / hands-on connection

With adult supervision, use a lamp and ball to model light and darkness. Never look directly at the real Sun.

Before you finish

What did you notice?

What evidence, object or example helped you?

What would you change if you tried again?

Create something

Your project

Draw four Earth positions around a simple day-night rotation sequence and add captions.

Use this space for planning, drawing, mapping, designing or notes.

CHALLENGE

Think deeper

1. What causes day and night?

2. Does the Moon make its own visible light?

3. Why must we never stare at the Sun?

Quick review

1. In one sentence, explain the big idea of “Earth, Sun & Moon: Day and Night”.

2. Draw or write one example that shows you understand.

3. Choose one activity from this pack and explain the strategy you used.

4. Write one question you still have.

Answer & discussion notes

Use these as guidance, not scripts. Open questions can have different successful responses when the reasoning is sensible and evidence-based.

1. Suggested response

Earth rotating.

2. Suggested response

No; it reflects sunlight.

3. Suggested response

Bright sunlight can damage eyes.

Review before publication

Check age fit, factual accuracy, clarity, accessibility, rights provenance and whether the activity works in practice. This file remains a review copy until those checks are signed off.

FINISH

My learning reflection

I finished this BrightPencil learning pack.

One thing I understand better now:

A strategy that helped me:

Something I created or noticed:

My next small question or goal:

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