

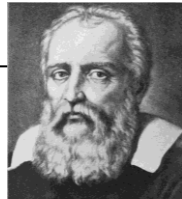
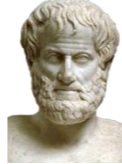
# Sun, Earth and Moon

## Planet Earth

• In medieval times and before, it was commonly accepted that the Earth was flat. Nowadays we have photographic and other evidence to show that, like other planets and the Moon, the Earth is spherical in shape.

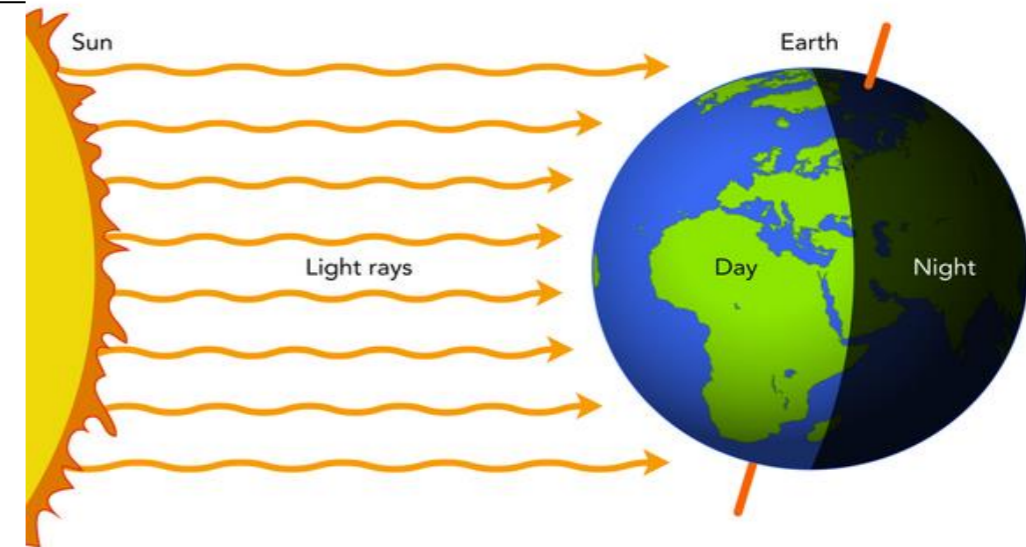
• It was also believed that the Earth was at the centre of the solar system. Aristotle believed this, in what is called the geocentric model.

• Scientists now believed that the sun is at the centre of the universe. This is called the heliocentric model. Galileo was a scientist who championed this model.



## Night and day

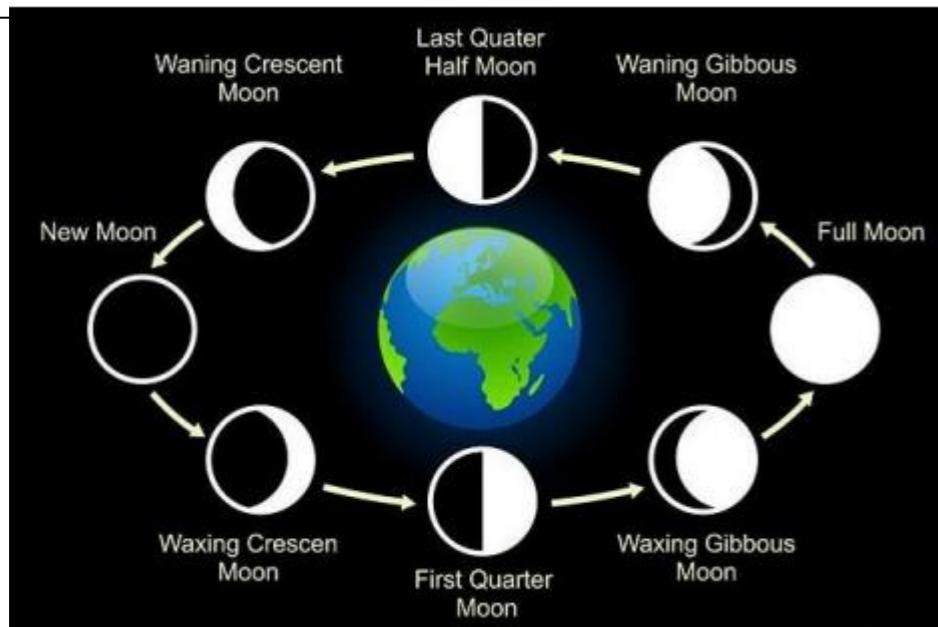
- The Earth and the Moon both move. The Earth orbits the Sun once every 365¼ days and spins on its axis once a day.
- The Earth spinning once a day causes night and day. The part of the Earth that faces the Sun is in daylight, and the part that is not facing the Sun is in darkness.



## The moon

• The moon reflects the light from the sun. The part of the moon facing the sun is lit up. The part facing away from the sun is in darkness.

• One full cycle of the Moon's phases is approximately 28 days, which is very close to the amount of time we now know as one month.



## Vocabulary

Planet	A large body of matter that travels in orbit around the sun.
Spherical	In the shape of a sphere.
Earth	The planet that we live on.
Orbit	The path taken by one object circling around another object.
Rotate	To turn around an axis
axis	A straight line about which a geometric shape rotates
hemisphere	One of the halves of the earth as divided by the equator.
tilt	To move or shift so as to slant or tip
season	one of the four quarters into which the year is commonly divided (Summer, Autumn, winter, spring)