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The Neighbours of Our Earth

Lesson Plan

Contents

- ▶ What we see in the sky
- ▶ The Sun
- ▶ The Planets
- ▶ The Moon
- ▶ The Stars

Objectives

- ▶ Understanding what surrounds the Earth and what we see during the day and at night.
- ▶ The various heavenly bodies and understanding distances as we see them.
- ▶ The Sun – its composition, functions and its position in the Solar System.
- ▶ The planets and their relationship with the Sun.
- ▶ The Moon – a satellite – its relationship with the Earth and the Sun.
- ▶ How do day and night occur.
- ▶ The stars – galaxies and constellations.

Teacher's Aids

- ▶ Maps and atlases
- ▶ Internet
- ▶ Blackboard and Charts

Tips for Teacher

- ▶ Show how the planets rotate around the Sun, and how the Earth revolves on its axis, and the Moon rotates around the Earth.
- ▶ Give a group of students the names of the heavenly bodies and have a game in class.

/// Gear Up, Background and Reading

- ▶ Let the students recite the rhyme, completing it with the missing words: Star; wonder; world; diamond.
- ▶ Explain day and night – what we see in the day and what we see at night.
- ▶ Explain the distances relative to each other from the Earth and why things look bigger or smaller.
- ▶ The Sun – a star – nearest to Earth – Solar System – hot gases- heat and light – solar energy – food for plants.
- ▶ The eight planets – their order – light and heat from Sun – Rotation of Earth in one year – Earth unique with air, water, living things.
- ▶ The Moon – closest to Earth – round – smaller than Sun – satellite – Moon rotates in one month around Earth – reflects Sun's light – Activity can be done in class.
- ▶ The Stars – heat and light – twinkling, thousands, bright star: Pole Star – groups: constellations, in a pattern like the Great Bear/Sapta Rishi; galaxies in large bands like the Milky Way/Akash Ganga