

Stargazers

Our topic is 'Stargazers', where you will be learning about The Solar System and The Universe.

For your home learning, we would like you to act like Astronauts and Astrophysicists and have a go at some of the activities listed below (or alternatively, come up with your own space-themed home learning ideas):

- Keep a Moon diary over the course of a lunar month. Draw the shape of the Moon each night, finding out and recording the correct term for each lunar phase.
- Use non-fiction books, astronomy magazines and the web to find and record amazing facts about space. Create a space scrapbook using your facts and downloaded images.
- Search the night sky and try to identify the Moon, stars or even some of the other planets in the Solar System such as Venus or Mars. Use binoculars or a telescope if possible. You might also be able to use an app which will help you to locate the position of the stars.
- Imagine... an alien space ship has crash landed in your back garden. Write a story about what happens next. You may want to borrow ideas from space stories or films you know well. Remember to use powerful vocabulary to bring your story (and your alien) to life!
- So far, 24 astronauts have visited the Moon. Find out their names, download pictures and record interesting facts about them.
- Write a letter of application to the UK Space Agency to become an astronaut. What personal qualities or skills would you need to carry out this role?
- Write a film review of a space-themed film that you have watched with your family. Some great films to choose might be *Wall-E* (U), *ET* (U), *Star Wars* (PG) or *Apollo 13* (PG). How many 'stars' would you award your film?
- Design and create an astronaut space helmet or alien headwear using junk materials. Bring it to school and take part in a space-inspired fashion parade!
- Teach your family the order of the planets in the Solar System using your mnemonic, then test them! Have they remembered correctly?
- Using non-fiction books and online research, find out the names of some of the best-known star constellations. On a clear night, try to identify them. Draw diagrams of those you have spotted. Do you think the names they have been given suit them?
- Make a 3-D model of the Solar System which displays all the planets in order.