

7La – Observing the sky/A place near the Sun

Word	Pronunciation	Meaning
astronomer		A scientist who studies the planets, stars and other things in space.
axis	<i>acks-iss</i>	Imaginary vertical line that goes from one pole of the Earth to the other. The Earth spins around its axis.
day		24 hours; the time it takes the Earth to spin once on its axis.
Earth		The planet we live on.
ellipse		A shape like a squashed circle.
leap year		A year with 366 days in it. We have a leap year every 4 years.
lunar month		29.5 days – the time it takes the Moon to orbit the Earth once.
model		A scientific way of thinking about how or why things happen.
moon		A natural satellite of a planet.
Moon		The Moon (with a capital M) is the moon that orbits the Earth.
natural satellite		Anything that orbits a planet that has not been made by humans.
orbit		The path that a planet takes around a star, or the path that a moon or satellite takes around a planet.
planet		A large object orbiting a star. The Earth is a planet.
satellite		Anything that orbits a planet.
sphere	<i>sfear</i>	A shape like a ball.
Sun		The star that the Earth orbits around.
year		The length of time it takes a planet to go around the Sun. One year on Earth is 365.25 days

7Lb – Moonshine

Word	Pronunciation	Meaning
full moon		The phase of the Moon when it looks like a bright, full circle.
lunar eclipse		When the Moon moves into the shadow of the Earth.
new moon		The phase of the Moon when we cannot see the lit-up side.
partial eclipse		A solar eclipse when the Moon only covers part of the Sun.
phases of the Moon		The different shapes the Moon seems to have at different times.
solar eclipse		When the Moon is between the Sun and the Earth, and casts a shadow on part of the Earth.
total eclipse		A solar eclipse when the Moon completely blocks out light from the Sun.

7Lc – A plan for all seasons

Word	Pronunciation	Meaning
Equator	<i>ee-kwate-er</i>	An imaginary line around the middle of the Earth.
hemispheres	<i>hem-ee-sfears</i>	The two halves of a sphere – the shape you would get if you cut a solid ball in half.
northern hemisphere		The half of the Earth with the North Pole in it. The UK is in the northern hemisphere.

7Ld – The Solar System

Word	Pronunciation	Meaning
asteroid	<i>ass-ter-oyd</i>	A small lump of rock orbiting around the Sun.
comet		A small lump of dirty ice orbiting around the Sun.
dwarf planet		A rocky body orbiting the Sun that is not quite big enough to be called a planet (i.e. Pluto, Ceres and Eris).
inner planets		Mercury, Venus, Earth and Mars. The inner planets are all rocky planets.
moon		A natural satellite of a planet.
outer planets		Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune. The outer planets are all mostly gas.
Solar System		A star with planets and other objects orbiting it.

Focus on: Exploring Mars

No new words.

7Le – Starry, starry nights/Studying space

Word	Pronunciation	Meaning
constellation	<i>con-stell-ay-shun</i>	A pattern of stars.
galaxy		Millions of stars grouped together.
light year		The distance that light travels in one year.
Milky Way		The galaxy that our Solar System is in.
star		A huge ball of gas that gives out heat and light energy.
Universe		All the galaxies and the space between them make up the Universe.