

Starters for Science are 4 activities that parents can use at home to help children develop their science alongside the key learning and vocabulary children are using at school. The activities are easy to resource and provide children with the stimulus to learn and talk about their science topic. Encourage children to use the correct vocabulary as they talk about what they are doing and finding out. Don't forget to share your work on social media

#ScienceFromHome

Key Learning:

The Earth, Sun and Moon are approximately spherical in shape.

The Earth spins on its axis once every 24 hours. The part of the earth facing the Sun has daylight, the part facing away from the Sun is in darkness.

The shadows cast by an object blocking the sunlight will change over the course of the day. This is caused by the Earth spinning on its axis.

The Moon is in orbit around the Earth. It takes 28 days to complete one orbit.

All the planets in our Solar System are in orbit around the Sun.

Vocabulary:

Earth
Sun
Moon
spin
axis
orbit
rotate
phases of the Moon
Solar System
planet
relative size
relative distance

Make a sundial

Stand a stick up with plasticine in the middle of a paper plate. Mark the position of the stick's shadow every hour. The next day, see if your sundial tells accurate time while playing outside. Why does the shadow move as the day goes on?

Fruit Solar System

Find out the relative size of the Sun and each planet and match it to the different kinds of fruit listed in the activity below. Then create your own model of our Solar System using fruit. You can choose different fruit or other similar sized objects, if you don't have all of the fruit at home. <https://www.stem.org.uk/rxyx3>

Explore Earth & Space

Join the alien explorer, Paxi, on his adventures around Earth and Space. Discover the Solar System, comets and how scientists are investigating whether there is life on Mars. <https://www.stem.org.uk/cx6yuu>

Daytime moon observation

When you're outside see if you can find the Moon in the sky. What shape is it? Keep a log of the shape of the Moon each day and draw a picture of its shape. Be careful when looking into the sky and ask a parent to tell you how to do this safely. <https://www.stem.org.uk/rxywz>