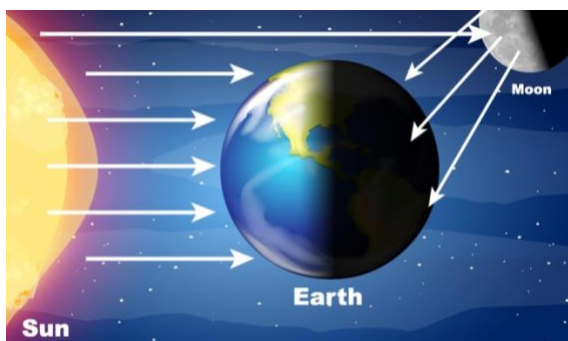


Science V13/S1 - The Night Sky

Have you ever wondered where the stars go during the day? The stars are always there, but we can't always see them. This is because the Earth is a round ball that is always spinning, like a toy top. It takes one day, or 24 hours, for the Earth to spin all the way around. When your place on Earth is pointing towards the sun, it is daytime. At the same time, the other side of the Earth is pointing away from the Sun and it is nighttime. The sun is always making light, but when we are in the shadow of the Earth, the light is blocked.



When it is daytime, the sunlight is very bright. The Sun is brighter than the light from the stars, so you can't see them. Imagine a nightlight in your room that you left on. When all the large lights in the room are on, you don't notice the small nightlight, even though it is still there. That is like the stars during the daytime. They are still shining during the day.



Because the Earth is always spinning, it might look like the stars and Sun are moving. The stars and Sun don't move, but you do. As Earth spins, we face different directions, so the sky looks different.

Many people see shapes made by the stars. These are called constellations. Humans from different times and places have given names to these different shapes of stars. Throughout history, people have been fascinated by the night sky.

