

Where Does the Moon Go?



Written by
Elizabeth Hope



"Earth is spinning. The moon is orbiting Earth. Earth is orbiting the Sun. It all makes me feel very dizzy!"

Grusilda xxx



Julia



Alex the Alien



Earth and the moon





Dear Alex the Alien,
Hello! How are you?
I am doing a science
project on space.
Could you help me,
please?

I want to know where
the Sun goes at night.

Your friend,
Julia

Hi, Julia!

Nice to hear from you.

The Sun doesn't go anywhere at night.
Your planet, Earth, spins around in space.



Here's How It Works

If you are on the side of Earth facing the Sun, it will be day.

If you are on the side of the Earth facing away from the Sun, it will be night.

The Sun is still there – it is just on the other side of your planet!

Earth Takes One Day

Your planet spins very fast. Earth takes one whole day and night to rotate once.

I hope that helps you with your project. Bye!

Alex the Alien

More About Earth

The exact time it takes for Earth to rotate is 23 hours 56 minutes and 4 seconds. It spins at 1 670 kilometres per hour!



Dear Alex the Alien,

Thank you very much!

It is good to know that
the Sun does not go
anywhere at night.

Where does the moon
go in the daytime?

Your friend,
Julia

Hi, Julia!

Thanks for your letter.

Your moon moves around, or orbits, Earth.
That is why you can't always see it.



Here's How It Works

Your moon moves around, or orbits, Earth. That is why you can see it on some days but not others. It is just on the other side of Earth.

The Moon Takes One Month

Even though the moon moves very fast, it takes one month to orbit your planet.

Would you like to know more for your project? Bye!

Alex the Alien

More About the Moon

The exact time it takes for the moon to orbit Earth is 27 days, 7 hours, 43 minutes and 11 seconds. It moves at 3600 kilometres per hour!



Dear Alex the Alien,

So, a day is the time
it takes for Earth to
rotate once.

A month is the time
it takes for the moon
to orbit Earth once.

Is there something
that happens once
in a year?

Your friend,
Julia

Hi, Julia!

Yes, just like your birthday,
something else happens once a year.

Your planet, Earth, orbits the Sun once a year.



Here's How It Works

Earth moves around,
or orbits, the Sun.
It takes one year
to do one orbit.

If you are six years
old, you have orbited
the Sun six times!

Earth Takes One Year

As well as spinning very fast, Earth orbits the Sun
at over 107 000 kilometres per hour. That's *fast*. Bye!

Alex the Alien

More About Earth's Orbit

The exact time it takes for Earth to orbit the Sun
is 365 days, 6 hours, 9 minutes and 9 seconds.



Dear Alex the Alien,
Thanks so much for
all your help. This space
project has been really
interesting!

All this spinning
and orbiting has made
me feel very giddy!

How are you feeling?

Your friend,
Julia



I am feeling giddy, too! Hold on tight!

Bye for now,
Alex the Alien

Grusilda's GRAPHIC Glossary



Try these words too:

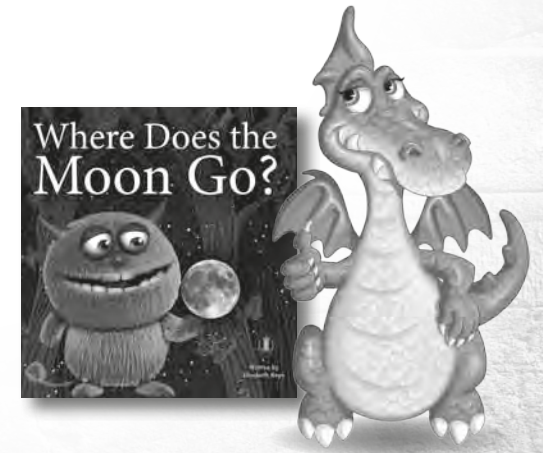
moving
month

orbit
orbiting

planet
spinning



"Hi! I'm Grusilda, The Literacy Tower's friendly dragon. There are **431 words** in this book. Most non-high frequency words are supported by images and diagrams and others can be sounded out by students using their decoding skills. For additional support, words in the glossary could be practised before students read this non-fiction text."



Grusilda xxx