

How Does Earth Rotate and Revolve in Space?

Science Words

Say each word quietly to yourself. Then read the meaning.

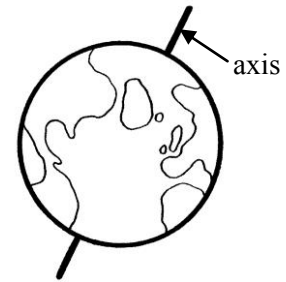
Read the tip to help you remember.

rotate [ROH•tayt] spin

Rotate and *round* begin with the same sound. The Earth spins round and round, like a top, as it *rotates*.

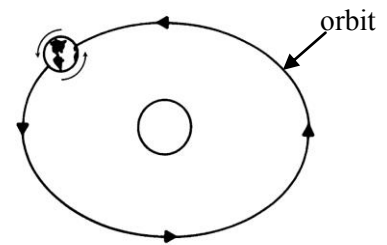
axis [AK•sis] an imaginary pole that runs through Earth's center from the North Pole to the South pole

The second letter in *axis* is *x*. A line of the *x* looks like the *axis* that runs through Earth's center.



orbit [AWR•bit] the path that Earth takes around the sun

Orbit begins with an *o*. You can think of the *o* as Earth's path around the sun.



constellation [khan•stuh•LAY•shuhn] a group of stars that seems to form a pattern

Constellation and *collection* begin with the same sounds. A *constellation* is a collection of stars.

This constellation
is called the Big
Dipper.



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Science Concepts

Read the Ideas more than once. Do your best to remember them.

1. Earth rotates, or spins, on its axis once every 24 hours.
2. As it rotates, one side of Earth faces the sun and has daytime.
3. The other side of Earth faces away from the sun and has nighttime.
4. Earth's rotation causes day and night.
5. Earth revolves around the sun in a path called an orbit.
6. Earth takes about 365 days to make one orbit around the sun.
7. Earth's orbit and the tilt of Earth's axis cause the seasons.
8. Earth is divided into halves called hemispheres. The upper half is the Northern Hemisphere; the lower half is the Southern Hemisphere.
9. The part of Earth tilted toward the sun has summer. The part of Earth tilted away from the sun has winter.
10. A constellation is a group of stars that seems to form a pattern.