

Vocabulary



axis an imaginary line that Earth spins around, that passes from the North Pole to the South Pole through Earth's center

When you ride a carousel, you can see the axis that it spins around. The Earth's axis is invisible. It is the straight line around which the whole planet spins. Each planet and moon has its own axis.

rotate to spin around a straight line that holds still

To rotate means to spin completely around. The wheels on a car rotate. A basketball spinning on a player's fingertip rotates. Earth rotates once every twenty-four hours. The straight line around which it rotates is called its axis.

solar system the Sun and all the objects that move around it

The word solar refers to the Sun. There are nine planets and almost 150 known moons in our solar system. All of these objects get their light and energy from the Sun.