Science Quiz

The Sun, the Earth and the Moon

Grade 3 | Circle the correct answer.

— PART 1: THE SUN —

1. Why is the Sun important to plants?

(Hint: Think about what plants need to make food.)

A) It makes the wind blow.
B) It gives light so plants can make food.
C) It makes the soil wet.
D) It keeps the sky blue.

Answer: _____

2. The Sun keeps the Earth warm. This is important because...

(Hint: Think about what living things need to survive.)

A) it makes the day longer.
B) it makes rain fall.
C) it helps living things stay alive.
D) it makes the Moon shine.

Answer: _____

3. Which of these is NOT a reason why the Sun is important?

(Hint: The Sun helps us see, keeps us warm, and helps plants. Which one is NOT true?)

A) It provides light so we can see.
B) It keeps the Earth warm.
C) It is the biggest star in the sky.
D) It helps plants make food.

Answer: _____

4. When does a shadow form?

(Hint: A shadow forms when something blocks light.)

A) When it is dark.
B) When an object blocks the light from the Sun.
C) When the Moon is full.
D) When the wind blows.

Answer: _____

5. Where does a shadow form compared to the Sun?

(Hint: The shadow goes on the other side — away from the Sun.)

A) On the same side as the Sun.
B) In front of the object.
C) On the opposite side from the Sun.
D) Under the object.

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Answer: _____

6. When is your shadow the shortest?

(Hint: The Sun is highest in the sky at noon.)

A) In the morning.
B) At noon (midday).
C) In the evening.
D) At night.

Answer: _____

— PART 2: THE EARTH —

7. How many times does the Earth spin in one day?

(Hint: One full spin = one day.)

A) One time.
B) Two times.
C) Three times.
D) Four times.

Answer: _____

8. What is the line that the Earth spins around called?

(Hint: It is the name for the invisible line through the middle of the Earth.)

A) Orbit.
B) Axis.
C) Phase.
D) Equator.

Answer: _____

9. Which sentence is TRUE?

(Hint: Only one of these sentences is correct.)

A) The Sun moves around the Earth.
B) The Moon moves around the Sun.
C) The Earth spins around its axis.
D) The Earth moves around the Moon.

Answer: _____

10. What does the Earth travel around?

(Hint: Think about what is at the centre of our Solar System.)

A) The Moon.
B) Another planet.
C) The Sun.
D) Its own axis.

Answer: _____

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— PART 3: THE MOON —

11. Does the Moon change its shape?

(Hint: The Moon is always a sphere. Only the part we can see changes.)

A) Yes, it grows bigger and smaller.
B) No, its shape never changes.
C) Yes, it becomes flat at night.
D) No, but it changes colour.

Answer: _____

12. What is the path the Moon takes around the Earth called?

(Hint: It is a circular path with a special name.)

A) A day.
B) A phase.
C) A spin.
D) An orbit.

Answer: _____

13. What causes the Moon phases (the different shapes we see)?

(Hint: The Moon gets light from the Sun. As it moves, we see different lit-up parts.)

A) The Earth spinning fast.
B) The Moon growing and shrinking.
C) The Moon moving around the Earth, so we see different lit parts.
D) Clouds covering the Moon.

Answer: _____

14. When we can see the whole circle of the Moon, what do we call it?

(Hint: Full = the whole Moon is lit up.)

A) New moon.
B) Crescent moon.
C) Gibbous moon.
D) Full moon.

Answer: _____

15. When we cannot see the Moon at all, what do we call it?

(Hint: This happens when the Moon is between the Sun and the Earth.)

A) Full moon.
B) Gibbous moon.
C) New moon.
D) Crescent moon.

Answer: _____

16. A crescent moon looks like...

(Hint: Think of a thin curved shape, like a banana.)

A) A big full circle.
B) A thin curved slice.

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C) A half circle.
D) A large oval.

Answer: _____

17. A gibbous moon looks like...

(Hint: It is more than half but not quite a full circle.)

A) A thin curved slice.
B) A full circle.
C) More than half a circle but not full.
D) A tiny dot.

Answer: _____

18. Why does the Moon shine at night?

(Hint: The Moon does not make its own light — it borrows light from something else.)

A) The Moon makes its own light.
B) The Moon reflects light from the Sun.
C) The Earth shines light on the Moon.
D) The stars light up the Moon.

Answer: _____

Word Box — Important Words to Know:

Axis — the invisible line through the middle of the Earth that it spins around.
Orbit — the circular path the Moon takes around the Earth.
Phase — the shape of the Moon we can see from Earth.
Revolution — one full trip around something (e.g. the Moon going all the way around the Earth).
Reflect — to bounce light off a surface.
Shadow — a dark area formed when an object blocks light.

Answer Key

1. **B** — The Sun gives light so plants can make food.
2. **C** — Warmth from the Sun helps living things survive.
3. **C** — Being the biggest star is not a reason it is important to living things.
4. **B** — A shadow forms when an object blocks sunlight.
5. **C** — Shadows always form on the opposite side from the Sun.
6. **B** — At noon the Sun is highest, so shadows are shortest.
7. **A** — The Earth makes one full spin in one day.
8. **B** — The Earth spins around its axis.
9. **C** — The Earth spins around its axis — this is the true sentence.
10. **C** — The Earth travels (revolves) around the Sun.
11. **B** — The Moon's shape does not change — only the part we see changes.
12. **D** — The Moon's circular path around the Earth is called an orbit.
13. **C** — As the Moon moves around the Earth, we see different lit-up parts.

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14. **D** — When we see the whole Moon lit up, it is a full moon.
15. **C** — When we cannot see the Moon, it is a new moon.
16. **B** — A crescent moon is a thin curved slice.
17. **C** — A gibbous moon is more than half but not yet full.
18. **B** — The Moon reflects (bounces back) light from the Sun.

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