1. Day
2. Shadow
3. Rotation
4. Axis
5. Night
6. The period of time when sunlight shines on the surface of Earth is called a day. The 24 hour cycle for Earth to make one complete rotation is also called a day. Many people like to consider sunrise the beginning of daytime. The Sun appears to come up in the east, travel across the sky to a position directly overhead at noon, and then seems to disappear, or set, in the west . The Sun doesn’t actually move; it’s Earth that does. Because Earth rotates, sometimes we are on the part of Earth where the Sun shines, and we experience day. Sometimes we are on the part of Earth where the Sun does not shine, and we are in darkness. This dark period is called nighttime.