

# SOCIAL STUDIES

Class - 3



# Introduction

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Millat Foundation for Educational Research and Development (MFERD) is an organization conceived with the vision of providing a common platform for the networking, co-ordination, collaboration and co-operation among Muslim educational institutions, thereby complementing the efforts of individuals and organizations in achieving excellence in education within the boundaries of Islamic Shariah. MFERD aims to address the various challenges faced by these institutions and find solutions through research and development.

One of its major program is to design a value based curriculum for school to nurture and culture our future generations with excellence.

Curriculum is the sum total of all learning experience a child undergoes including academics, activities, learning environment, assessment and interaction with teachers, students, parents all together from the moment a child walks in the school until he/she steps out.

After years of research in child psychology, education from Islamic perspective, and review of various curricula, a value based curriculum has been designed in accordance with National Curriculum Framework and International standards to focus on all round development of the children so that they identify their identity, realize the need and become leaders of tomorrow.

This curriculum is comprised of:

- **Objectives** - as per Islam psychology, education and stakeholders
- **Syllabus** - as per age group and government standards
- **Methodology** - child centric and appropriate to the subject and objectives
- **Resources** - including teacher training, teaching aids manuals and more
- **Assessment** - formative, summative, self, co-scholastic, behavioral and long term
- **Activities** - curricular, co-curricular and extra curricular with guidelines for events
- **Scheduling** - calendar, day-year plans, workload, period split and competitions
- **Observation** - feedback and research

Central Academic Development department has been setup to plan, train and monitor the implementation of this curriculum in various schools at all the levels.

# Preface

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Social studies is the study of people in relation to each other and to the world in which they live. It comprises the disciplines of history, geography, civics and economics. As a study of human beings in their physical, social and cultural environment, social studies examines the past and present and looks towards the future.

It helps students acquire the skills, attitude, knowledge and values that will enable them to become engaged, active, informed and responsible citizens and contributing members of their communities, locally, nationally and globally. It encourages to develop their sense of self and community, enthusing them to affirm their place as citizens in an inclusive and democratic society.

Life and stories of the Prophets of Allah as mentioned in the Quran and Hadees are the best medium to introduce Islamic history to young Muslims. We believe in developing a historical perspective where historical materials are not merely used as a chain of events, dates and names, rather they become basic fountain of learning through which students are able to relate their own life experiences in the perspective of social studies.

Students should be acquainted with the relationship between obedience to Allah's command and Allah's rewards and the consequent punishment of not doing so. Gaining insight into these processes will enable the learners to be receptive to the teaching of the Quran and Sunnah and identifies his identity.

Knowledge and comprehension of geographical concepts of locations, time, space, distance and direction have also been accorded in lucid manner.

It is to ingrain in the minds of young that Allah has created the heaven and the earth and he has made land and water bodies with the specific light thrown on our country India and its states with a great variety of foods eaten and the clothes worn therein.

We hope that the book would prove to be a rich source for learners to enrich their knowledge of the world in Islamic perspective and social studies.

# Excerpts from National Curriculum Framework 2005

## An overall summary of the National Curriculum Framework 2005

The fact that learning has become a source of burden and stress on children and their parents is an evidence of a deep distortion in educational aims and quality. To correct this distortion, the present NCF proposes five guiding principles for curriculum development

- (i) connecting knowledge to life outside the school;
- (ii) ensuring that learning shifts away from rote methods;
- (iii) enriching the curriculum so that it goes beyond textbooks;
- (iv) making examinations more flexible and integrating them with classroom life; and
- (v) nurturing an over-riding identity informed by caring concerns within the democratic polity of the country

## National Curriculum Framework 2005 on the perspective of education

Education must be able to promote values that foster peace, humaneness and tolerance in a multicultural society.

The National Curriculum Frame document seeks to provide a framework within which teachers and schools can choose and plan experiences that they think children should have. In order to realize educational objectives, the curriculum should be conceptualized as a structure that articulates required experiences. For this, it should address some basic questions:

- (i) What educational purposes should the schools seek to achieve?
- (ii) What educational experiences can be provided that are likely to achieve these purposes?
- (iii) How can these educational experiences be meaningfully organized?
- (iv) How do we ensure that these educational purposes are indeed being accomplished?

## National Curriculum Framework 2005 on the Guiding Principles of education

Children acquire varied skills naturally while growing up in their environment. They also observe life and the world around them. When imported into classrooms, their questions and queries can enrich the curriculum and make it more creative. Such reforms will also facilitate the practice of the widely acknowledged curricular principles of moving from 'known to unknown', from 'concrete to abstract', and from 'local to global'.

*The MFERD books are designed to adhere to the guiding principles laid down in the National Curriculum Framework 2005. We want the followers/students to abide and fulfill the educational objectives framed by the NCF so that they not only become honest and faithful citizens but also to be a part of the ever growing global world and economy. We sincerely believe that by following this curriculum the students will develop their personality which will be a beacon of light for others to reflect and ponder and be like one.*

*For MFERD's approach to address these perspectives please refer to the back cover page.*

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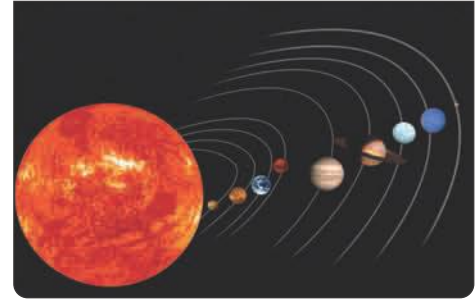


# The Solar System

1

## Let us learn :

Our universe  
Solar system  
Comets and satellite  
Asteroids



## Time to ponder

Do you know where we came from? Where we live?  
How was the world created?

## Our universe

Allah created the heaven and the Earth from nothing. (Surah: An'aam chapter 6 verse : 101).

Allah commanded the universe to form. There was a huge explosion and everything was created.

For ages philosophers and scientists have been wondering about the creation of the universe.

Modern scientists believe that the universe was born out of a huge explosion called the big bang many years ago. At the time of the Big Bang, things in the universe were hot and dense. After the explosion all the things began to cool



*Big Bang*

down and grow bigger. Thus, the universe was created. This is called Big Bang theory. Many scientists use this explanation for the creation of the universe. But the cause of the Big Bang is still a mystery. Whereas believers believe that Allah created the universe.

Allah created the Sun, the Moon and the stars all subjugated by His command. (Surah: Ar'aaf chapter 7 verse : 54)

The universe includes the Sun, the Moon, the Earth, the stars and all forms of life. Thus everything in the universe was created by the command of Allah.

The skies and the Earth were both joined together then We tore both of them apart and We made every living thing from water. Will they not then believe. (Surah: Ambiya chapter 21 verse: 30)



Can you count the number of stars?

## Galaxy

A galaxy is a large group of stars. The Sun, the Earth, the stars are all located in a galaxy called the Milky Way.

If Sun is also star then why is it so bright?

The Sun is a huge star. It is a giant ball of very hot gases. It looks much bigger than the other stars in the sky because it is closer to the Earth than any other star.

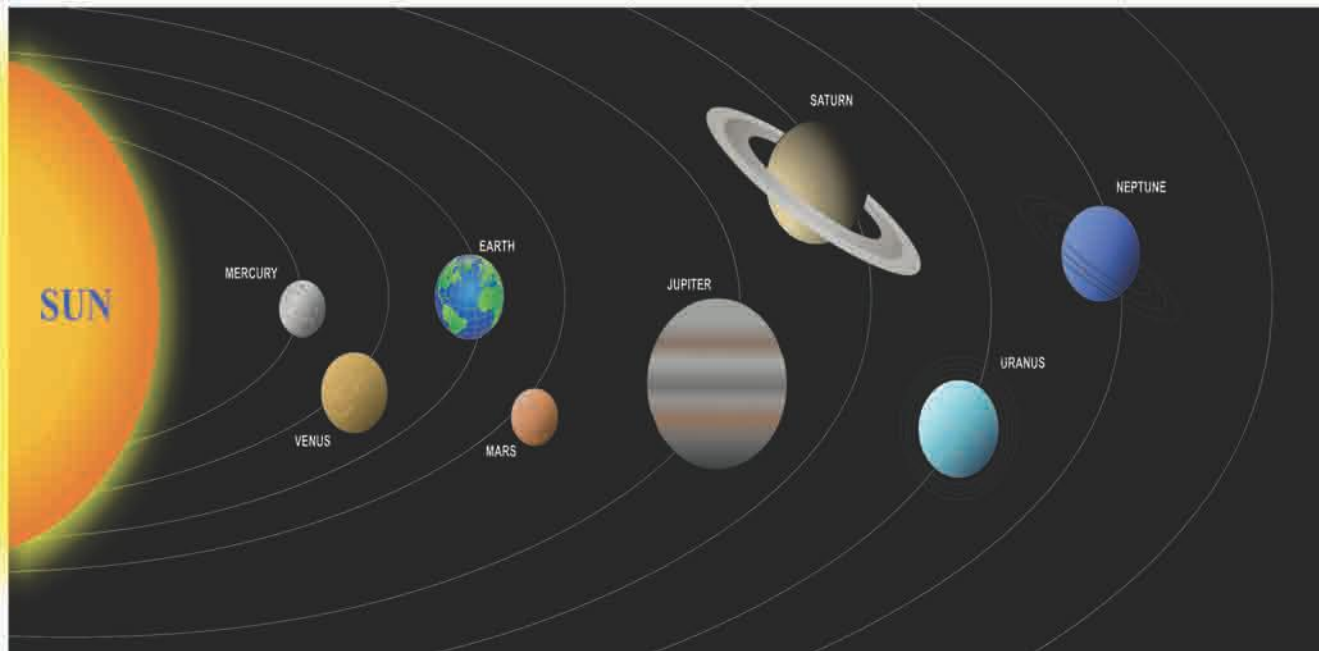


*Galaxy*

## Solar system

It is Allah Who created the night, the day, the Sun and the Moon, each swimming in its own orbit. (Surah: Ambiya chapter 21 verse : 33)

Just as we have a family, our Sun too has one. The Sun, eight planets, the moons or satellites, comets and asteroids together form the Sun's family or the Solar system. The eight planets are the most important members of the solar system. Our earth is one of these planets.



Planets are celestial bodies. They revolve around the sun. They are nearly round in shape. They revolve around the sun in a specific oval path called orbit. Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune are the eight planets in the solar system.

It is not possible for the Sun to catch the Moon, nor is it possible for the night to precede the day. They all swim within their orbits. (Surah: Yaseen chapter 36 verse : 40)

Mercury is the smallest planet of the solar system while Jupiter is the largest. Till recently Pluto was considered as the ninth planet of the solar system. But on August 24<sup>th</sup> 2006 Pluto was demoted from the status of a planet. It is now classified as a dwarf planet.



**Time to ponder**

How do you think the earth looks from the sky? What is its colour? Does it shine like moon? Find out the colours of other planets.

### Satellite and comets

A satellite is a small object that revolves around a planet. All the planets in the solar system except Mercury and Venus have their own natural satellites. The Moon is the only natural satellite of the Earth.

In the solar system, only the Sun has its own light. It is the main source of heat and light on Earth. None of the other planets or satellites has light of its own. All planets and satellites reflect the light of the Sun. Comets are made up of rock, ice and gas. They also move around the Sun.



Allah made the Sun a shining light and the Moon a derived light and determined for its phases. (Surah : Younus chapter 10 verse : 5)



Does earth has any other satellite? Find out and discuss in the class.

## Asteroids

Apart from the planets there are certain small objects that also move around the Sun. These are asteroids. Asteroids are small, rocky things that orbit the Sun.



*Mercury*



*Jupiter*



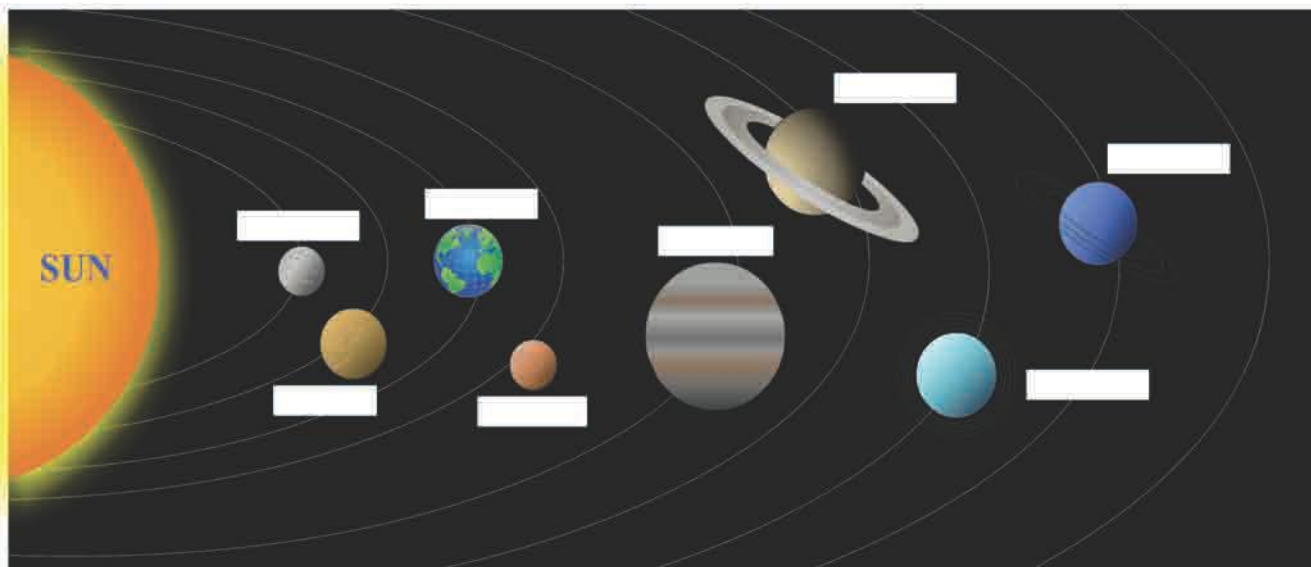
*Comets*



*Satellite*

## Activity

Label the planets.



## Keywords

stars

huge glowing balls of burning hot gases

galaxy

a very large group of stars and planets

Milky way

the galaxy that contains our solar system

Solar system

the Sun, eight planets, satellites, comets, asteroids

satellite

a small object that revolves around a planet

orbit	a specific oval path on which a planet travels around the sun
asteroids	small rocky things that orbit the Sun
comet	an object in space made of rock, ice and gas that orbits the Sun

### Catch a glimpse:

Modern scientists believe that the universe was born out of a huge explosion called the big bang many years ago.

The Sun is a huge star. It is a giant ball of very hot gases.

Galaxies are large groups of stars.

The Moon is the only natural satellite of the Earth.

Asteroids are small, rocky things that orbit around the Sun.

### 1. Answer the following questions in brief.

1. What is the solar system ?
2. Name the eight planets of the solar system.
3. What is a galaxy ?
4. What are asteroids ?

### 2. Answer the following questions.

1. What do scientists believe about the birth of the universe ?
2. What are satellites?

### 3. Fill in the blanks using the words from the brackets.

(star, orbit, big bang, ice and gas, Mercury and Jupiter)

1. The Sun is a \_\_\_\_\_.
2. A planet travels in its path called \_\_\_\_\_ around the sun.
3. Most scientists believe that the universe was born out of a huge explosion called the \_\_\_\_\_.

4. Comets are made up of \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
5. The \_\_\_\_\_ is the smallest and \_\_\_\_\_ is the largest planet in the solar system.

#### 4. Tick the correct answer.

1. Which is the only natural satellite of the Earth ?  
a) Jupiter      b) moon      c) Venus
2. Which of the following is called a dwarf planet ?  
a) Mars      b) Mercury      c) Pluto
3. How many planets are there in the solar system ?  
a) seven      b) eight      c) nine
4. In which year was Pluto demoted from the status of a planet ?  
a) 2000      b) 2006      c) 2008
5. Name of our galaxy.  
a) comet      b) asteroids      c) milky way

#### Take home activity

**Make a chart or model of the solar system.**

#### Give a thought

**If you are given a chance to go to space, what things will you carry along with you ? Why ?**

Find out the verse related to Big Bang and write its verse in Arabic.