

# 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Science

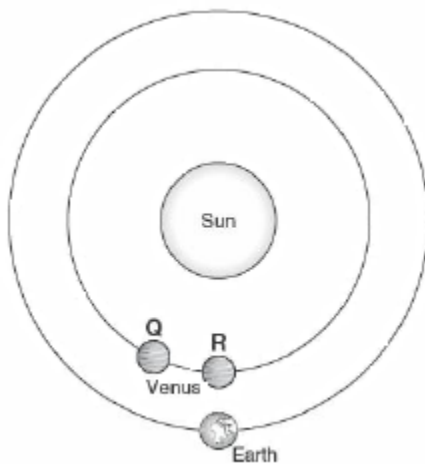
## Sample Assessment Items S6E1d.

Suppose you view the constellation Leo in the northern sky on March 1 at 8:00 p.m. On April 1, at the same time of night, Leo looks like it has changed its position slightly. Which statement best explains your observation?

- A. The universe is expanding.
  - B. The Earth has moved in its orbit around the Sun.\*
  - C. The constellation has moved behind a dust cloud.
  - D. The constellation has moved within the Milky Way.
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During Spring months observed from Northern latitudes, the constellation Leo will rise in the East, travel across the night sky, and set in the West. Which BEST explains this observation?

- A. The constellation Leo is orbiting the Sun.
  - B. The constellation Leo is orbiting the Earth.
  - C. The constellation Leo appears to move across the sky as a result of the Earth's tilt.
  - D. The constellation Leo appears to move across the sky as a result of the Earth's rotation.\*
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Based on the drawing above, what is the main reason that Venus would appear brighter at point Q rather than at point R as seen from the Earth?

- A. The planet is closer to the Earth at point Q than at point R.
  - B. More of the visible side of the planet is illuminated at point Q than at point R.\*
  - C. Light from the planet at point Q is less affected by the sun's gravity than at point R.
  - D. The planet appears overhead against a dark sky when it is at point Q but not at point R.
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Why do objects appear to move across the sky?