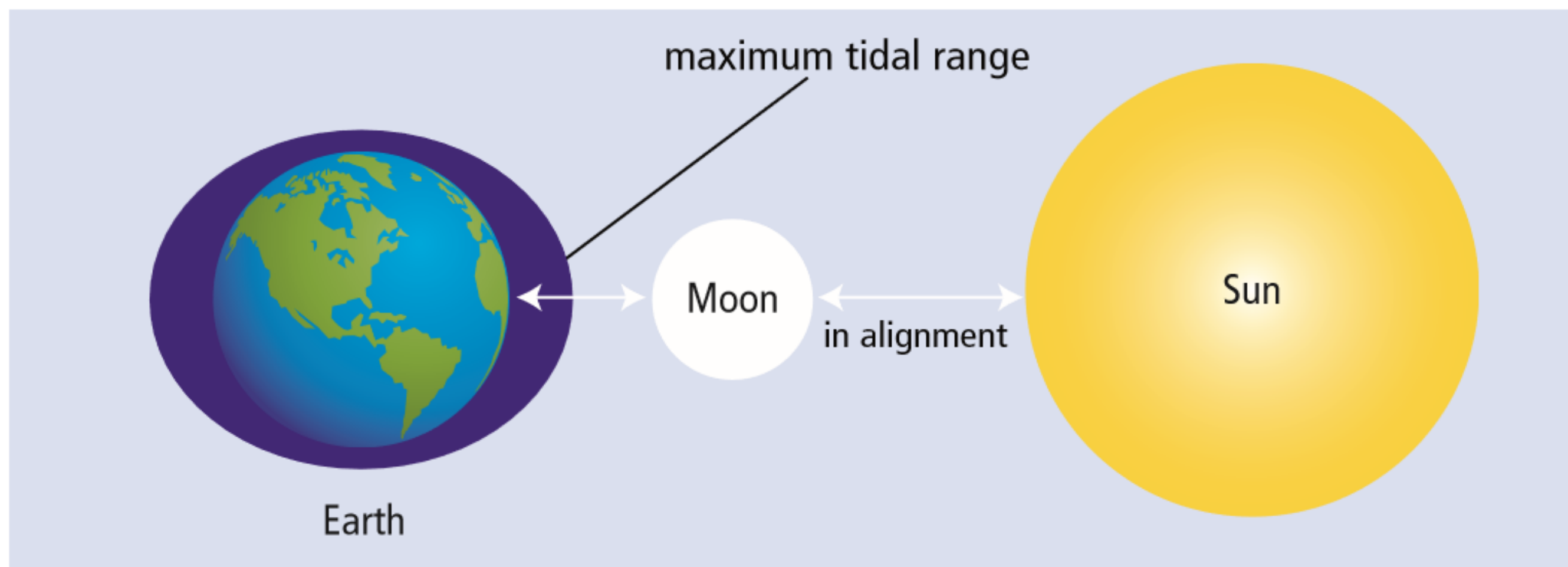




Do you know? Your tides

Spring tides

When there is a full or new moon, the earth, the sun and moon are in a straight line, their gravitational pulls combine to produce a higher tidal range known as spring tides. High tides are very high and low tides very low.



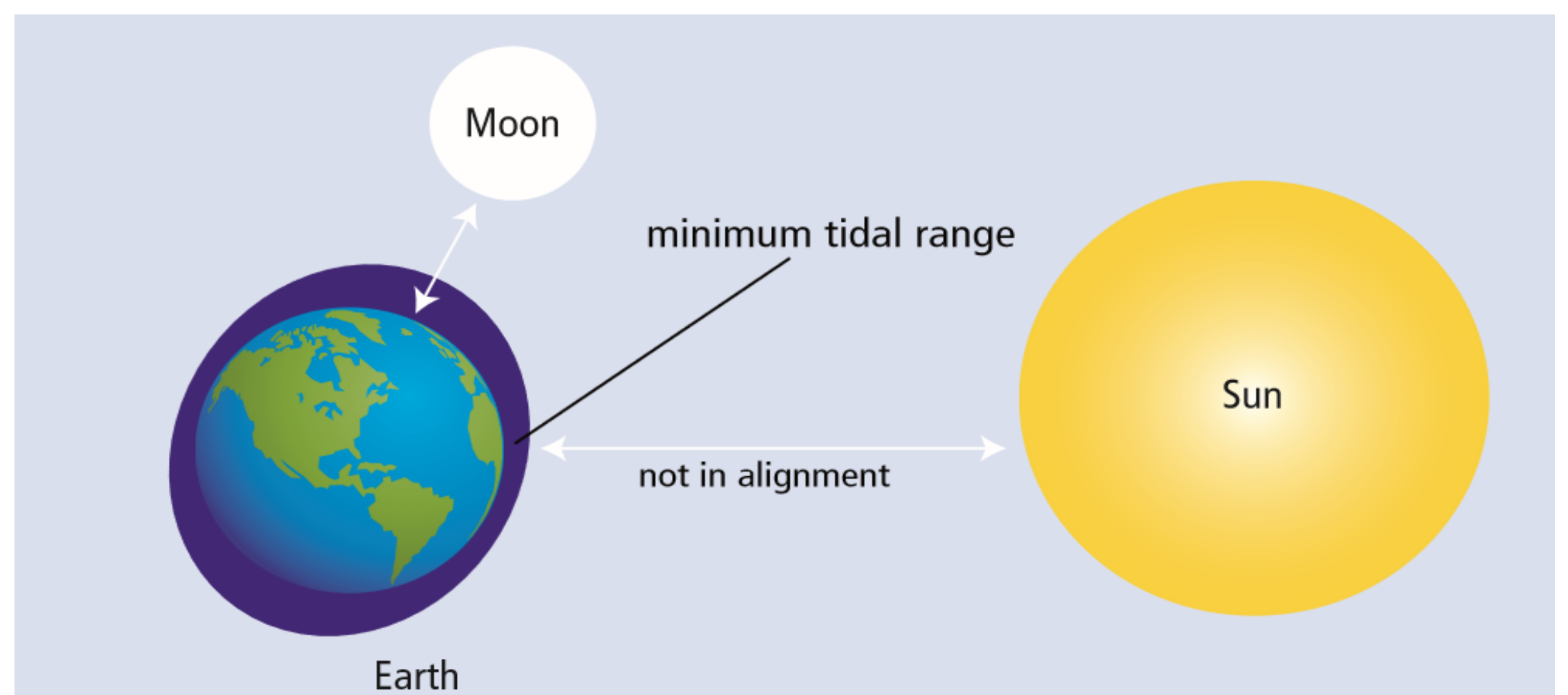
The biggest spring tides usually occur at the equinoxes - around the 21st March and the 23rd September.

This is when the new and full moons are closest to the earth exerting the strongest gravitational attraction.

Neap tides

When the sun and moon form a right angle with the earth, the gravitational pull on the oceans is less, producing a smaller tidal range. These are known as neap tides.

They occur during the quarter phases of the moon - first quarter and third or last quarter.



Ebb tide

The period between high and low tide as the water level drops.

Flood tide

The period between low and high tide as the water level rises.

