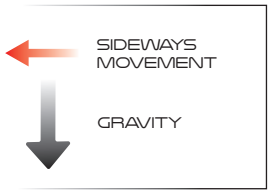
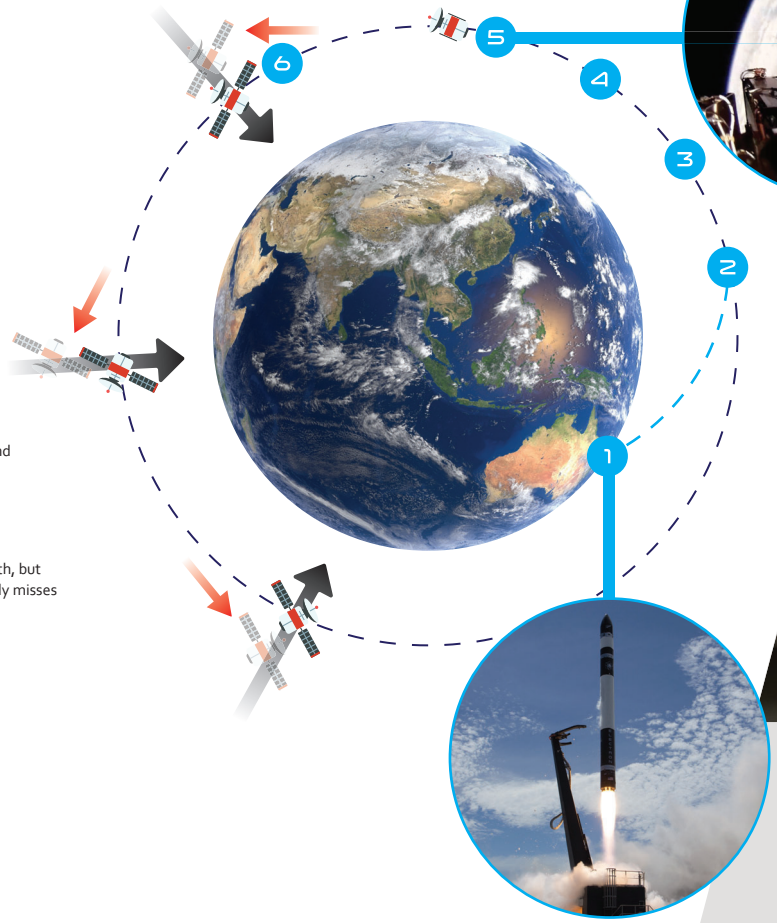
HOW DO SATELLITES STAY IN SPACE?

At Rocket Lab, we're experts at launching small satellites to space on our Electron rocket. The satellites we have launched do things like take pictures, collect information, and communicate between space and Earth every single day.

But when a satellite is in space, how exactly does it stay up there and travel around the world without falling back down to Earth?

Here's a guide on exactly how satellites stay in space.





1. Electron launches to space.
2. Electron escapes the atmosphere and shifts its path horizontal to Earth.
3. Electron's engines stop firing and its Stage 1 and Stage 2 separate.
4. The process is repeated for Stage 2 and Electron's third stage, the Kick Stage.
5. The Kick Stage releases the satellite and turns off its engine.
6. Gravity pulls the satellite towards earth, but it's now going so fast that it continually misses Earth and now orbits the world.