

Vocabulary – Our Solar System

Earth

Earth is the third planet from the Sun. It is a rocky planet and the fifth largest in our solar system. It has one moon and no rings.

Jupiter

Jupiter is the fifth planet from the Sun. The surface is made of gases and water. It has more than 50 moons and lots of barely visible rings that are made of dust particles.

Mars

Mars is the fourth planet from the Sun. It is a rocky planet but much colder than Earth. It has two moons and no rings.

Mercury

Mercury is the closest planet to the Sun. It is a rocky planet that orbits the sun faster than any other. It has no moons and no rings.

The Moon

The Moon is a large round rock that orbits the Earth once every 29 days. It is the fifth largest moon in our solar system.

Neptune

Neptune is the eighth planet from the Sun. It is an icy gas planet that is bright blue because of the methane gas in its atmosphere. It has 13 or 14 moons and lots of rings that are hard to see.

planet

A planet is a natural object in space moving around a star that is big enough to have its own gravity.

Pluto

Pluto used to be considered the ninth planet from the Sun. Studies starting in 1977 found several other icy objects similar to Pluto in our solar system, so Pluto was eventually excluded and was reclassified as a dwarf planet in 2006.

Saturn

Saturn is the sixth planet from the Sun. It is made of gas and is the second largest planet in our solar system. It has over 50 moons and seven main rings made from icy particles.

solar system

Our solar system is the system of planets and other objects orbiting our Sun. It consists of eight planets. It has 146 known moons and is located in the Milky Way Galaxy.

The Sun

The Sun is the only star in our solar system. It is a giant ball of glowing hot gas. It creates all the light and heat for all the planets in our solar system.

Uranus

Uranus is the seventh planet from the Sun. It is an icy gas planet that is blue and green because of the methane gas in its atmosphere. It is the coldest of all the planets in our solar system. It has over 25 moons and 13 rings.

Venus

Venus is the second planet from the Sun. It is a rocky planet that spins slowly backwards compared to all the other planets. It has no moons and no rings.