

Quick Planet Facts

- **Earth** - only planet known to have life on it, 70% of Earth's surface is covered in water
- **Jupiter** - biggest planet, has a storm that has been going on for over 350 years called "The Great Red Spot"
- **Saturn** - Although some other planets have rings, Saturn is known for their rings because they can be seen the clearest
- **Mercury** - closest to the sun, smallest planet, has no water
- **Uranus** - it's a blue planet because of gas, not water. Uranus orbits on its side and because of this their seasons differ from Earth
- **Neptune** - farthest from the sun, takes 165 years to orbit the sun
- **Mars** - dust storms occur periodically and cover the entire planet, cold and dry planet
- **Venus** - hottest planet, has thousands of volcanoes, craters, and mountain ranges
- Interesting honorary mention bc **Pluto** isn't "technically a planet", but from this article kids identify with its misfit status [[More information here!](#)]
- (we also don't have to include it if its controversial, but could be interesting history - like "this was once a "planet", but had its status revoked"

More Planet Facts

Mercury: craters are named after famous artists, musicians and authors.

Earth: atmosphere protects us from meteoroids and radiation from the Sun.

Mars: There have been more missions to Mars than any other planet.

Jupiter: has more than double the mass of all the other planets combined.

Saturn: has more moons than any other planet in the Solar System.

Uranus: has only been visited by a single spacecraft, Voyager 2.

Neptune: It takes more than 4 hours for light to reach Neptune from the Sun.

Cool **general** fact: Only 8 planets have been discovered in our solar system but there is compelling evidence for a 9th planet.

General Planet Descriptions

Mercury:

Mercury is the smallest planet in the solar system, and the one closest to the Sun. This planet is estimated to be just slightly larger than the Earth's moon. When you are viewing the Sun from the surface of Mercury, it appears three times larger than when it's viewed from the Earth. Additionally, the sunlight is about 7 times brighter on Mercury than on Earth.

Venus:

The second closest planet to the Sun, spinning in the opposite direction to most planets, Venus is the hottest planet, and one of the brightest objects in the sky. Venus looks like a very active planet. It has mountains and volcanoes. Venus is similar in size to Earth, Earth is just a little bit bigger. Venus has a very dense, toxic atmosphere and an eternally thick, yellowish cloud of sulfuric acid that traps heat.

Earth:

Earth is the only known planet that's habitable by living things. It is also the fifth largest planet in the solar system and the only planet with water on the surface. The name Earth, which is about

1,000 years old, means “the ground”. It is located approximately 93 million miles away from the Sun. Earth is special because it is an ocean planet, water covers 70% of Earth's surface.

Mars:

Mars is a cold desert planet, It is half the size of Earth and is sometimes called the Red Planet. It's red color comes from rusty iron in the ground. Like Earth, it has volcanoes, valleys, deserts, and polar ice caps. This planet is one of the most explored planets in the solar system. There is evidence that billions of years ago Mars was wetter and warmer.

Jupiter:

Jupiter is a massive planet, twice the size of all other planets combined and has a centuries-old storm that is bigger than Earth. It's similar to a star, but it never got massive enough to start burning. It is covered in swirling cloud stripes. Jupiter is a gas giant, and because of this its atmosphere is the most intense in the Solar System.

Saturn:

Saturn is the second-largest planet in the solar system. It's decorated with thousands of gorgeous rings. The rings we see are made of groups of tiny ringlets that surround Saturn. They're made of chunks of ice and rock. Like Jupiter, Saturn is mostly a ball of gasses. This planet is believed to have over 82 moons!

Uranus:

Uranus is an ice giant planet, estimated to be about four times bigger than the Earth. This planet has 27 known moons and some spectacular rings, like Saturn. Uranus has a very unique rotation—it spins on its side at an almost 90-degree angle, unlike other planets.

Neptune:

Neptune is the most distant planet in the solar system, also another ice giant planet, like Uranus. It is a dark, cold planet hit with high speed winds. This planet is not visible to the eye, and it is located about 2.8 billion miles away from the Sun. It was the first planet located through calculations, rather than by telescope.

General Space Information

The Sun:

Our Sun is a 4.5 billion-year-old star – a hot glowing ball at the center of our solar system. The Sun is about 93 million miles (150 million kilometers) from Earth, and without its energy, life as we know it could not exist here on our home planet. The Sun's activity, from its powerful eruptions to the steady stream of charged particles it sends out, influences the nature of space throughout the solar system.

The Milky Way:

Our Sun (a star) and all the planets around it are part of a galaxy known as the Milky Way Galaxy. A galaxy is a large group of stars, gas, and dust bound together by gravity. They come in a variety of shapes and sizes. The Milky Way is a large barred spiral galaxy. All the stars we see in the night sky are in our own Milky Way Galaxy.

The Galaxy:

A galaxy is a huge collection of gas, dust, and of stars and their solar systems. A galaxy is held together by gravity. Our galaxy, the Milky Way, also has a black hole in the middle. A galaxy can contain hundreds of billions of stars and be many thousands of light-years across.

Our Solar System:

Our solar system consists of our star, the Sun, and everything bound to it by gravity – the planets Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune; dwarf planets such as Pluto; dozens of moons; and millions of asteroids, comets, and meteoroids.

Constellations:

Constellations are groups of stars. The constellations you can see at night depend on your location on Earth and the time of year. Constellations were named after objects, animals, and people long ago. Astronomers today still use constellations to name stars and meteor showers.

Reference Links

(to Other Space Cams/Live Streams)

- <https://www.space.com/topics/space-junk>
 - <https://hubblesite.org/>
 - <https://www.theplanetstoday.com/>
 - <https://viewspace.org/>
 - https://callumprentice.github.io/apps/planet_compare/#
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Space Trivia

1. What is the star closest to Earth?
A. the sun B. mercury C. venus D. alpha centauri
2. Which is the hottest planet?
A. Mercury B. Neptune C. Venus D. Mars
3. How long does it take the sun's light to reach Earth?
A. 3 minutes B. 8 minutes C.
4. How many stars are in our solar system?
A. Zero B.three C.two D.one
5. What is the name of our galaxy?
A. The Sun B.The Milky Way C. The twix galaxy D. the universe
6. Which two planets do not have moons?
A. Mercury and Venus B. Earth and Venus C. Venus and Mars D. Neptune and Uranus
- 7.How many moons does Jupiter have?
A. 2 B. 20 C. 55+ D. 100+
- 8.Where is the North Star located?
A. Directly over the North Pole of the Earth B. In the North Galaxy C. In North America D. In the North Sun
- 9.What is the Earth's biggest satellite?
A. The NASA satellite B. The Mars satellite C.The moon D. There is no satellite
- 10.What is a supernova?

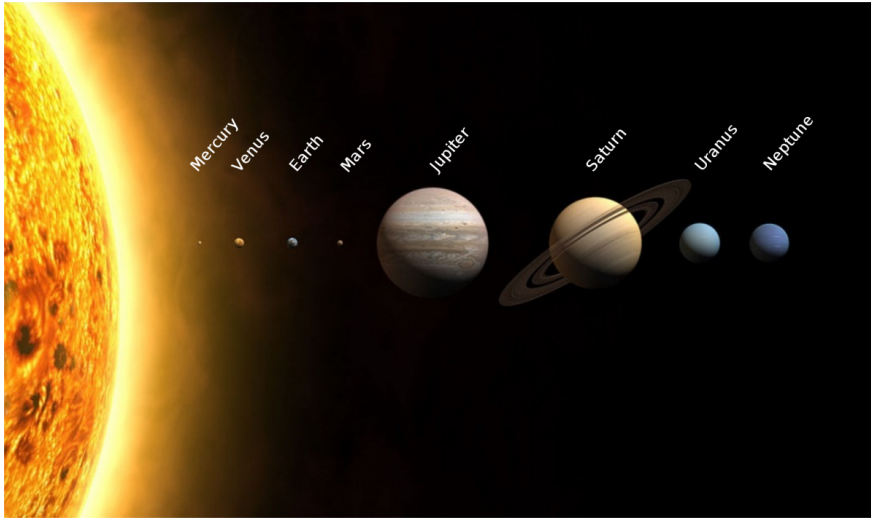
A. A planet B. A galaxy C. A satellite D. An exploding star

11. Which planet spins on its side?
a. Jupiter b. Mars c. Neptune d. Uranus
12. Where does gravity pull people/objects?
a. Center b. Right c. left d. Down
13. What's a blue moon?
a. The second full moon in the month b. Blue wavelength c. nothing d. galaxy
14. How many days does it take the moon to orbit the Earth?
a. 29 b. 15 c. 4 d. 1
15. Like Earth, Mars is covered with air. What type of gas makes up most of Mars' air?
a. Oxygen b. Hydrogen c. Carbon Dioxide d. Propane
16. Pluto is not a planet. What is it?
a. Star b. Galaxy c. Comet d. Dwarf Planet
17. How many dwarf planets are in our solar system?
a. 15 b. 11 c. 5 d. 2
18. Which planet is nicknamed 'The Red Planet'?
a. Neptune b. Saturn c. Mars d. Earth
19. Which planet is nicknamed 'The Cloudy Planet'?
a. Mars b. Venus c. Pluto d. Jupiter
20. If you are standing above the North Pole looking down, which way would the Earth rotate?
a. Counter-Clockwise b. Up C. Clockwise D. Down

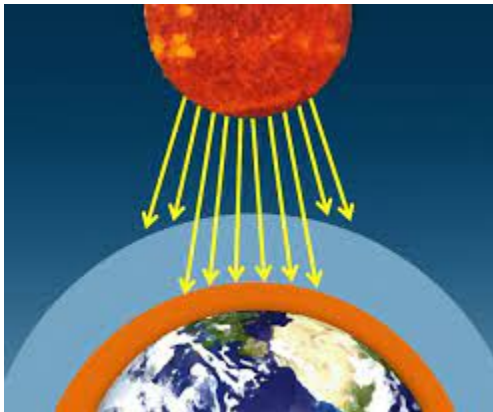
Photos For Space Trivia



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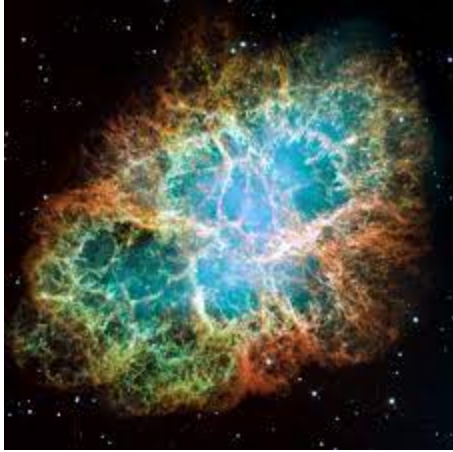


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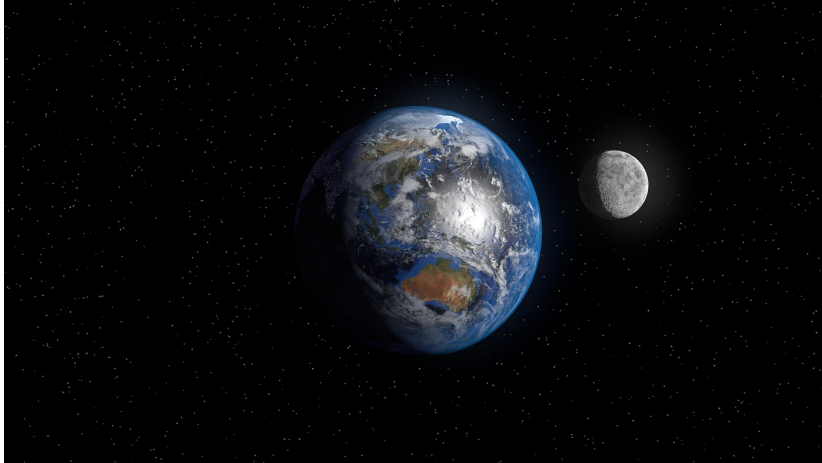
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(main home page)

Video Playlist:

- [SOLAR SYSTEM](#)
- [EARTH](#)
- [MERCURY](#)
- [VENUS](#)
- [SUN](#)
- [PLUTO](#)
- [THE MILKY WAY](#)
- [COMETS](#)
- [MOON](#)
- [JUPITER](#)
- [MARS](#)
- [SATURN](#)
- [URANUS](#)
- [NEPTUNE](#)
- [PLANET COMPARISON](#)
- [COSMIC EYE](#)

Website Layout

- Main section has 3 buttons that say learn here, watch here, play here
 - learn here would be our random facts we gathered and the definitions
 - watch here would be a collection of the video link we provided
- play here would be the trivia questions
- Headings: bold, 43 font, white color

- Subtitles: 25 font, white color
- paragraph: 15 font, white color
- background- dark blue