

Name:

Date:

# OUR AMAZING SOLAR SYSTEM

## Read the text.

Have you ever looked up at the night sky and wondered what's out there? Our solar system is full of incredible things to explore! It's like a giant neighborhood in space, with the Sun at the center and planets, moons, and other objects all moving around it. Let's learn more about it!

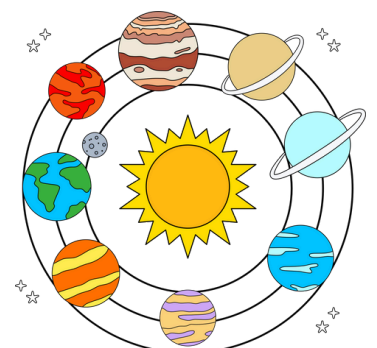
The Sun is the heart of our solar system. It's a huge ball of hot, glowing gas that gives us light and warmth. Without the Sun, life on Earth wouldn't be possible! All the planets in the solar system orbit, or travel around, the Sun. This is because the Sun's gravity pulls them toward it, just like how Earth's gravity keeps us from floating away. There are eight planets in our solar system. The four closest to the Sun are called the inner planets: Mercury, Venus, Earth, and Mars. These planets are smaller and made mostly of rock. The four outer planets are Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune. They are much bigger and made mostly of gas, so they are sometimes called gas giants. Did you know that Jupiter is the largest planet in the solar system ?

Besides planets, there are other cool things in the solar system. There are moons, which are like smaller worlds that orbit planets. Earth has one moon, but some planets have many! Saturn, for example, has over 80 moons. There are also comets, which are icy objects that zoom through space, and asteroids, which are rocky objects that float between planets.

Our solar system is an exciting place to learn about. Scientists are always discovering new things, like distant moons or even planets in other solar systems far away. Who knows? Maybe one day, you could become a scientist and help explore the wonders of space!



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**Fill in the Blank: Fill in the blank with the correct words.**

1. The Sun is a huge ball of hot, glowing \_\_\_\_\_.
2. All the planets \_\_\_\_\_ around the Sun.
3. The four closest planets to the Sun are called the \_\_\_\_\_ planets.
4. Jupiter is the largest \_\_\_\_\_ in the solar system.
5. Comets are \_\_\_\_\_ objects that zoom through space.

**WORD BANK: ORBIT, GAS, ICY, PLANET, INNER**

**Multiple Choice Questions: Choose the correct answer from the choices for each question.**

**1** What is at the center of our solar system?

- A) Earth
- B) The Moon
- C) The Sun
- D) Jupiter

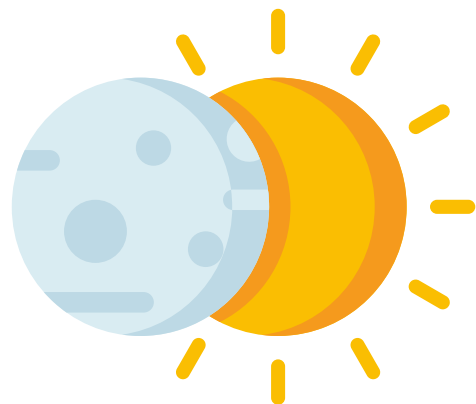


**2** Which planet is NOT one of the inner planets?

- A) Mars
- B) Venus
- C) Neptune
- D) Mercury

**3** How many moons does Earth have?

- A) 1
- B) 2
- C) 10
- D) Over 80



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**Open Ended Questions: Answer the following questions in complete sentences:**

**1** Why is the Sun important for life on Earth?

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**2** Name one interesting fact about Jupiter.

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**3** What would you like to discover if you became a space scientist?

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