

The Solar System



Introducing the Solar System

The Solar System is made up of various celestial objects:

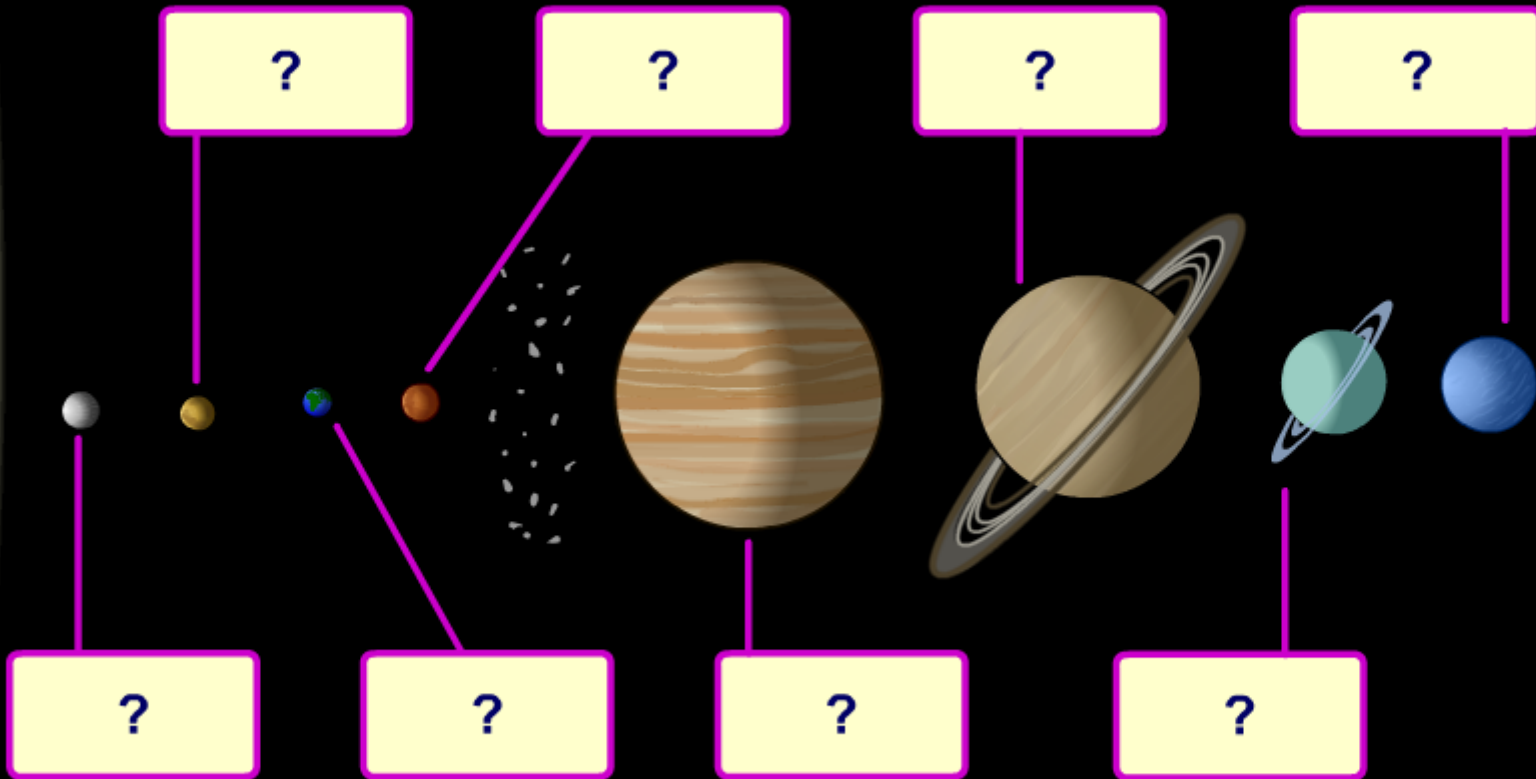
- the Sun
- the planets
- moons
- asteroids
- comets.

How do these objects interact?

The Sun is a star – a massive ball of hot glowing gas. It has the strongest **gravitational** field in the Solar System. All the other celestial bodies orbit around it.



What are the names of the planets in our Solar System?



Size in the Universe

moon

The Moon is the Earth's only natural satellite.

planet

star

solar system

galaxy

universe

The Moon has a diameter of 3.4 million meters, which is about a quarter the diameter of Earth.



Is Pluto a planet?

In 2006, the International Astronomical Union defined a planet as:
“a celestial object that orbits the Sun, has enough mass to be spherical, and has cleared the area around its orbit of objects.”



This photograph shows Pluto and its moon, Charon. Pluto's orbit is surrounded by smaller objects that have not been cleared by its gravitational field.

Pluto and the other 'smaller' planet-like objects such as Eris and Ceres have now been reclassified as 'Dwarf Planets'.



The Solar System – facts and figures



Sun

Mercury

Venus

Earth

Mars

Jupiter

Saturn

Uranus

Neptune

Pluto



The history of the Solar System

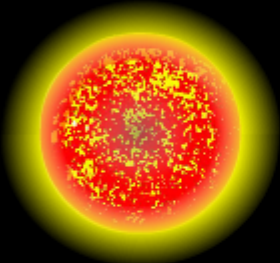


Ideas about the Solar System



Which object in our Solar System?

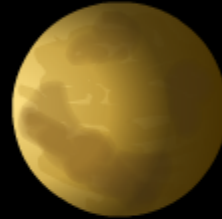
- 1 a. It is the third planet from the Sun.
b. The only planet known to have life on it.



the Sun



Mercury



Venus



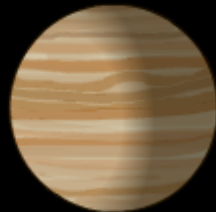
Earth



Mars



Saturn



Jupiter



Uranus



Neptune



Pluto



Which planet completes each sentence?

1. is 14.8 times as heavy as Earth.
2. has 46 moons.
3. is 4497 million kilometers from the Sun.
4. is the third planet from the Sun.
5. is the biggest planet.
6. takes 687 Earth days to orbit the Sun.



solve

