

Planets in the Solar System

Introduction

The solar system is made up of planets and other objects (like asteroids) that move around the Sun. The Sun is in the middle of the solar system and all the planets revolve around the Sun in regular paths. The Earth is just one of eight planets in the solar system. Each planet is unique. They are different sizes and made up of different materials.

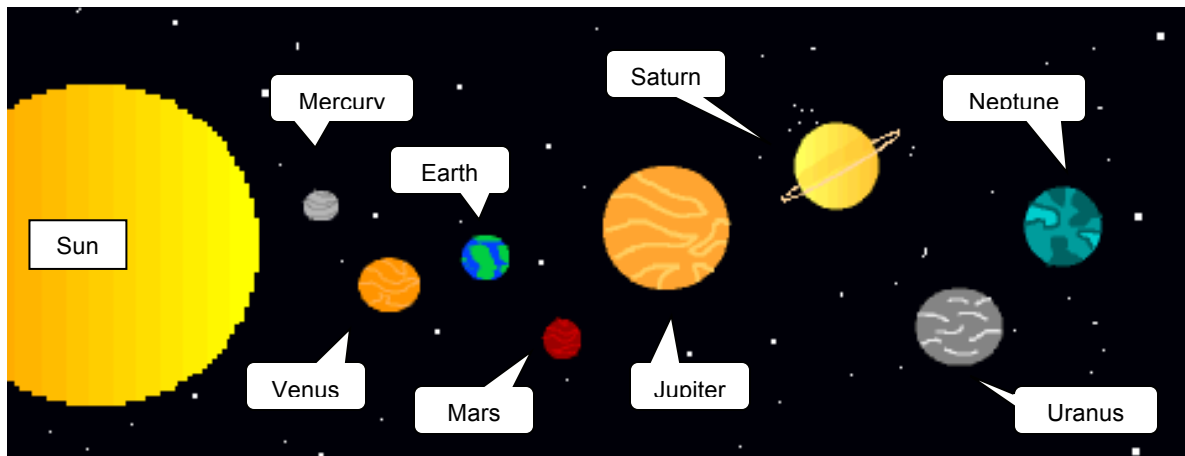
Activity

In our Octopi Lesson, we are going to need to know the names of all eight planets in the solar system.

1) List the planets in the solar system:

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

2) Label the planets on the picture below.



Challenge Question:

1) You may have heard of a planet named Pluto. Why isn't Pluto on our list of planets?

For Teachers:

This activity aligns with Science Content Standards (for 5th grade):

5. The solar system consists of planets and other bodies that orbit the Sun in predictable paths. As a basis for understanding this concept:

a. Students know the Sun, an average star, is the central and largest body in the solar system and is composed primarily of hydrogen and helium.

b. Students know the solar system includes the planet Earth, the Moon, the Sun, eight other planets and their satellites, and smaller objects, such as asteroids and comets.