

How Big is the Solar System?

Earth is part of the solar system, which is the family of planets and other, smaller space objects that move around the sun.

The order of the planets starting with the closest to the sun is as follows:

A way to remember the order

{	Mercury <u>Smallest in size</u> (4880 km in diameter)	My
	Venus	Very
	Earth	Exited
	Mars <u>2nd smallest in size</u> (6800 km in diameter)	Mother
	Jupiter <u>Largest in size</u> (142 000 km in diameter)	Just
	Saturn <u>2nd Largest in size</u> (120 000 km in diameter)	Served
	Uranus	Us
	Neptune	Nachos

* Planets differ in their size motion and temperatures.

The furthest away from the sun means that it receives the least amount of sunlight and heat




Read Page 6 & 7 From "Out of This World" Book

Answer questions on page 6

The Solar System had dozens of moons, including the Earth's moon and thousands of asteroids and meteoroids.

Every year or so new moons are discovered for the outer planets.

- 0 Moons for Mercury.
- 0 Moons for Venus.
- 1 Moon of Earth. Luna.
- 2 Moons of Mars. Deimos. Phobos
- ~~6 Moons for Dwarf Ceres.~~
- 67 Moons of Jupiter
- 62 Moons of Saturn
-  27 Moons of Uranus

This has changed over the years due to new discoveries.

The sun is the largest object in our solar system (1 392 000 km in diameter)

The moon is the closest object to the earth. It is 348 500km away from Earth.

The Earth is actually 150 000 000 km away from the sun. Knowing this tells us how big the solar system really is.

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