

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 Smallest in size (4880 km in diameter)

Venus - hottest

Earth - has life

Mars Red planet & 2nd smallest in size (6800 km in diameter)

Jupiter Largest in size (142 000 km in diameter)

Saturn has rings & 2nd Largest in size (120 000 km in diameter)

Uranus Coldest

Neptune Known as an Ice Giant

My

Very

Excited

Mother

Just

Served

Us

Nachos

[Exploring Our Solar System: Planets and Space for Kids - FreeSchool - YouTube](#)




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

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
- 0 Moons for Dwarf Ceres.
- 67 Moons of Jupiter
- 62 Moons of Saturn
-  27 Moons of Uranus
- 14 Moons of Neptune

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.

Planets are made of either rock or gases.

Inner planets (Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars) made of rock

Outer Planets (Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune) made of gas

- ALL planets except Mercury have atmosphere

Atmosphere is the thin layer of gases around a planet. The gases are not the same for each planet. For Protection

Earth has an atmosphere that is about **3/4 nitrogen, 1/4 oxygen**, and trace amounts of carbon dioxide and other gases

The Moon has no atmosphere

Attachments

Unit 1 Space Test Outline.notebook