

Name : _____

The Planets

The Terrestrial Planets



Mercury

Mercury is the smallest planet in our solar system. It is the fastest revolving planet and the closest planet to the Sun. Mercury is the second hottest planet in the solar system.



Venus

Venus is the second planet from the Sun. It is also the brightest and the hottest planet in our solar system. Venus is referred to as the "Earth's twin" because of their similar size and mass. It is called the morning or evening star.



Earth

Earth is the only planet on which life is known to exist. The planet's distance from the Sun, the atmosphere and the availability of liquid water makes it the most habitable planet. Earth has only one satellite - the Moon.



Mars

Mars is the fourth planet from the Sun. It is the second smallest planet in the solar system and known as the 'Red Planet' because of the rust-colored soil. Mars has two moons. The 'Olympus Mons' the largest volcano is found here.

The Jovian Planets or Gas Giants



Jupiter

Jupiter is the largest planet in the solar system. It is the fifth planet from the Sun and called the Gas Giant planet. Jupiter has a total of 79 known moons. It is the fastest spinning planet in the solar system.



Saturn

Saturn is the sixth planet from the Sun in the solar system. It is the lightest planet in the solar system. Saturn has beautiful rings that orbit the planet. Saturn has 62 moons of which Titan is the largest.



Uranus

Uranus is the seventh planet from the Sun. It is the coldest planet in the solar system. Uranus has the thin ring system. Uranus has 27 known moons. It is described as "rolling around the Sun on its side".



Neptune

Neptune is the eighth planet from the Sun. It is the smallest of the Gas Giants. It has the strongest winds in the solar system. Neptune has 13 known moons. Triton is the largest known moon of Neptune.