

## The Solar System

- The Solar System is made up of the Sun, the eight planets, their moons, and other objects that travel around the Sun.
o Erin Kathryn 2016



## What is a planet?

- A planet is a large body in space that moves around a star.
- Planets do not make their own light.
- Planets reflect the Sun's light.
- There are 8 planets that orbit the Sun.
- Orbit means to move in a path around something.



## The Inner Planets



- The inner planets are the planets closet to the Sun.
- These planets get a lot of heat and light from the Sun.
- The inner planets are small, ballshaped, and made of rock.
- They are:
- Mercury
- Venus
- Earth
- Mars


## Mercury

- Mercury is the first planet from the Sun.
- Mercury is about the size of Earth's moon.
- It is very, very hot during the day and very cold at night.
- Mercury orbits quickly, but spins slowly.
- Mercury does not have any moons.


## Venus

- Venus is the second planet from the Sun.
- It is about the same size as Earth.
- Venus orbits all the way around the Sun in less time than it takes to make one full spin.
- It does not have any moons.


## Earth

- Earth is the third planet from the Sun.
- It is the only planet in the solar system that we know has living things.
- Earth spins every 24 hours and orbits the Sun about every 365 days.
- Earth has one moon.


## Mars

- Mars is the fourth planet from the Sun.
- It is called the Red Planet because it is covered with red rocks.
- Mars and Earth spin at about the same speed.
- Mars has two moons.


## The Outer Planets

- The outer planets are the planets farthest from the Sun.
- The outer planets are called gas giants.
- A gas giant is a very large planet made up of gases.
- They are:
- Jupiter
- Saturn
- Uranus
- Neptune



## Jupiter

- Jupiter is the fifth planet from the Sun.
- Jupiter is bigger than all of the other planets put together!
- It has a big storm called the Great Red Spot.
- Jupiter has at least 63 moons, but could have even more.


## Saturn

- Saturn is the sixth planet from the Sun.
- It is the second largest planet
- Saturn has rings around it
are made of pieces of ice, dust, and rocks.
- Saturn has at least 47 moons.


## Uranus

- Uranus is the seventh planet from the Sun.
- It is the third largest planet.
- Uranus spins on its side.
- A gas makes it a blue-green color.
- Uranus has at least 27 moons


## Neptune

- Neptune is the eighth planet from the Sun.
- Neptune is very cold and has very strong winds.
- It takes Neptune 165 Earth years to orbit the Sun.
- Neptune has at least 13 moons.
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