SCIENCE · SOLAR SYSTEM · GRADES 1–3

The Planets in Order



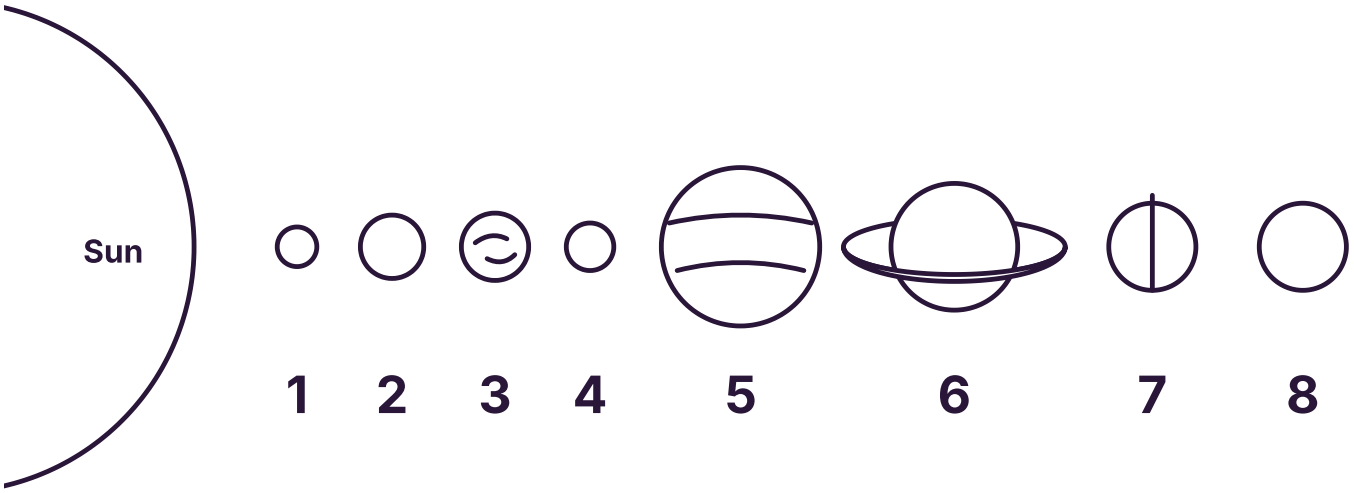
Label the eight planets in order from the sun, with a word bank and a sentence to remember the order.

Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Word bank

Jupiter · Earth · Uranus · Mercury · Mars · Venus · Neptune · Saturn

Write the name of each planet in order from the sun.



1. _____ 2. _____ 3. _____ 4. _____

5. _____ 6. _____ 7. _____ 8. _____

Remember the order: My **V**ery **E**asy **M**ethod **J**ust **S**peeds **U**p **N**aming. Each word starts with the same letter as a planet.

The planet we live on is _____

The biggest planet is _____

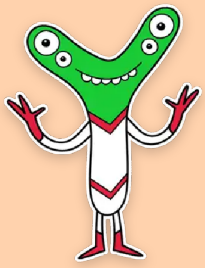
The planet closest to the sun is _____

Art © Kevin Coulston

SCIENCE · SOLAR SYSTEM · GRADES 2–4

Rocky Planets and Giant Planets

Sort the planets into rocky planets and giant planets, then answer five questions about them.



Name: _____ **Date:** _____

The four planets closest to the sun are small and **rocky**. The four planets farther out are **giant planets** made mostly of gas and ice.

Write each planet in the right box.

Rocky planets	Giant planets

Circle the answer.

Which planet is the Red Planet? **Mars** **Venus** **Neptune**

Which is a giant planet? **Earth** **Saturn** **Mercury**

Which giant planet is the biggest? **Jupiter** **Uranus** **Neptune**

Where would you find a solid surface to stand on? **Mars** **Jupiter** **Uranus**

Which planet is farthest from the sun? **Saturn** **Uranus** **Neptune**

Art © Kevin Coulston

SCIENCE · SOLAR SYSTEM · GRADES 3–5

Phases of the Moon

Label the eight phases of the moon, then answer questions about how the moon seems to change.

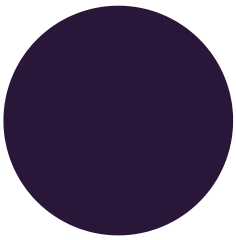


Name: _____ **Date:** _____

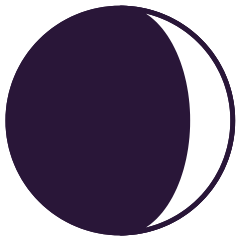
Word bank

new moon | waxing crescent | first quarter | waxing gibbous | full moon | waning gibbous | third quarter | waning crescent

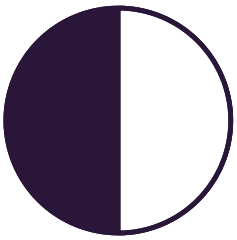
Label each phase. The moon goes through all eight in about 29½ days.

1 

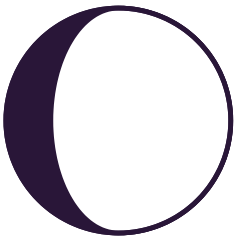
_____

2 

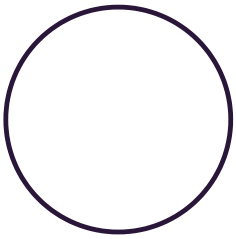
_____

3 

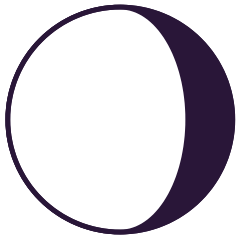
_____

4 

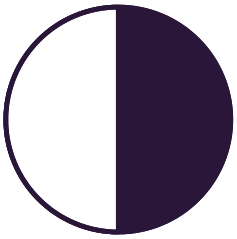
_____

5 

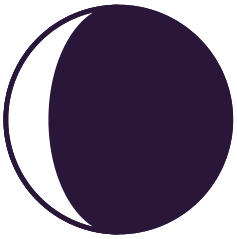
_____

6 

_____

7 

_____

8 

_____

Circle the answer.

The moon shines because it

(makes its own light) (reflects light from the sun)

"Waxing" means the lit part is

(getting bigger) (getting smaller)

A full moon looks like

(a whole bright circle) (a thin sliver)

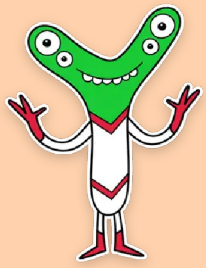
Art © Kevin Coulston

SCIENCE · SOLAR SYSTEM · GRADES 2–5

Space: True or False?

Ten facts about the sun, moon and planets to mark true or false, then fix two false ones.

Name: _____ **Date:** _____



Circle True or False.

The sun is a star.	True	False
Earth is the third planet from the sun.	True	False
The moon makes its own light.	True	False
Jupiter is the biggest planet.	True	False
Mars is called the Red Planet.	True	False
Saturn is the only planet with rings.	True	False
Earth takes about 365 days to go around the sun.	True	False
Venus is the hottest planet.	True	False
Earth spins around once every week.	True	False
Neptune is the closest planet to the sun.	True	False

Pick two false sentences and fix them so they are true.

_____

_____

_____

Art © Kevin Coulston

SCIENCE · SOLAR SYSTEM · GRADES 2–5

My Planet Report

A research template for one planet: a drawing, its order from the sun, moons, length of a year and fun facts.

Name: _____ **Date:** _____



Draw your planet.

My planet _____

Number from the sun _____

Rocky or giant? _____

Number of moons _____

One year there lasts _____

Three facts about my planet:

_____

_____

_____

Would you visit it? Why or why not?

_____

_____

Where I found my facts _____

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · SOLAR SYSTEM · GRADES 1–3

Answer Key: The Planets in Order

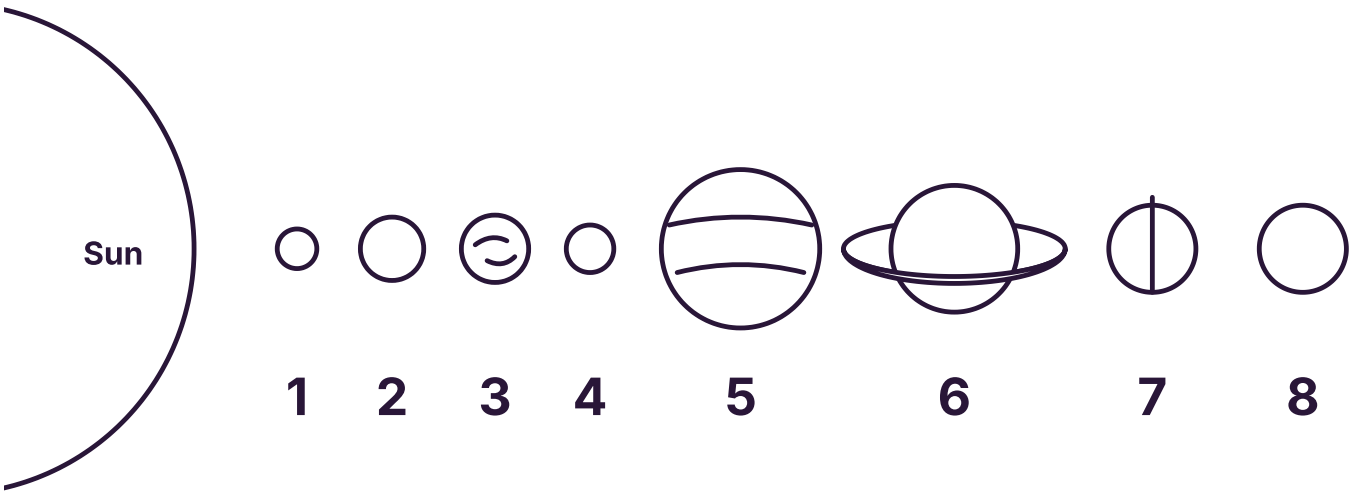
Answers for grown-ups. Some questions have more than one good answer.



Word bank

Jupiter · Earth · Uranus · Mercury · Mars · Venus · Neptune · Saturn

Write the name of each planet in order from the sun.



1. Mercury
2. Venus
3. Earth
4. Mars
5. Jupiter
6. Saturn
7. Uranus
8. Neptune

Remember the order: **M**y **V**ery **E**asy **M**ethod **J**ust **S**peeds **U**p **N**aming. Each word starts with the same letter as a planet.

The planet we live on is Earth

The biggest planet is Jupiter

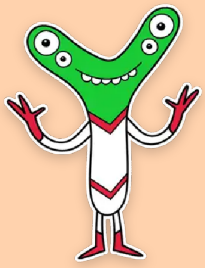
The planet closest to the sun is Mercury

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · SOLAR SYSTEM · GRADES 2–4

Answer Key: Rocky Planets and Giant Planets

Answers for grown-ups. Some questions have more than one good answer.



The four planets closest to the sun are small and **rocky**. The four planets farther out are **giant planets** made mostly of gas and ice.

Write each planet in the right box.

Rocky planets	Giant planets
Earth	Jupiter
Mars	Neptune
Mercury	Saturn
Venus	Uranus

Circle the answer.

Which planet is the Red Planet? **Mars** · Venus · Neptune

Which is a giant planet? Earth · **Saturn** · Mercury

Which giant planet is the biggest? **Jupiter** · Uranus · Neptune

Where would you find a solid surface to stand on? **Mars** · Jupiter · Uranus

Which planet is farthest from the sun? Saturn · Uranus · **Neptune**

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · SOLAR SYSTEM · GRADES 3–5

Answer Key: Phases of the Moon

Answers for grown-ups. Some questions have more than one good answer.

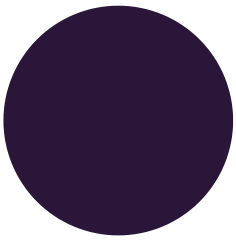


Word bank

new moon · waxing crescent · first quarter · waxing gibbous · full moon · waning gibbous · third quarter · waning crescent

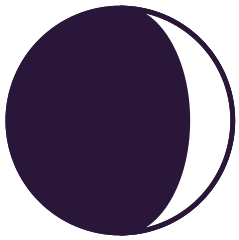
Label each phase. The moon goes through all eight in about 29½ days.

1



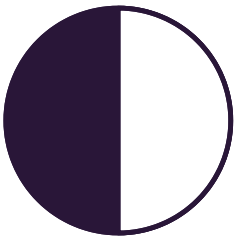
new moon

2



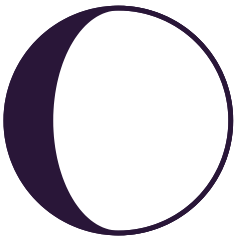
waxing crescent

3



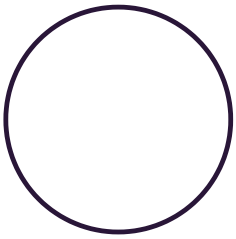
first quarter

4



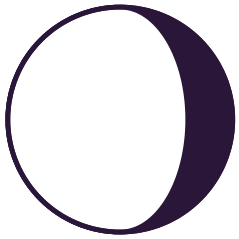
waxing gibbous

5



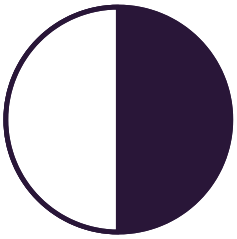
full moon

6



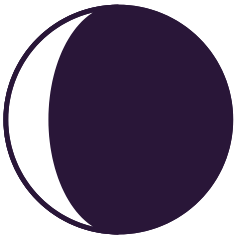
waning gibbous

7



third quarter

8



waning crescent

Circle the answer.

The moon shines because it

makes its own light · **reflects light from the sun**

"Waxing" means the lit part is

getting bigger · **getting smaller**

A full moon looks like

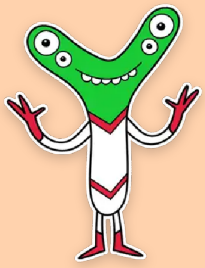
a whole bright circle · **a thin sliver**

Art © Kevin Coulston

ANSWER KEY · SOLAR SYSTEM · GRADES 2–5

Answer Key: Space: True or False?

Answers for grown-ups. Some questions have more than one good answer.



Circle True or False.

The sun is a star.	**True**	False
Earth is the third planet from the sun.	**True**	False
The moon makes its own light.	True	**False**
Jupiter is the biggest planet.	**True**	False
Mars is called the Red Planet.	**True**	False
Saturn is the only planet with rings.	True	**False**
Earth takes about 365 days to go around the sun.	**True**	False
Venus is the hottest planet.	**True**	False
Earth spins around once every week.	True	**False**
Neptune is the closest planet to the sun.	True	**False**

Pick two false sentences and fix them so they are true.

Art © Kevin Coulston