


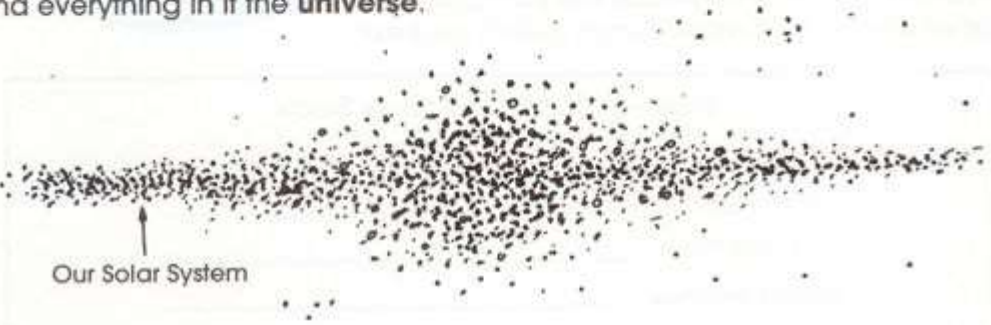
## Studying the Solar System

Games



### Beyond Our Solar System

Astronomers know that much lies beyond our solar system. In fact, in the drawing on this page our solar system is just a tiny speck in a larger group of objects in space. This larger group is called the **Milky Way galaxy**. The Milky Way is made up of all the stars you can see in the night sky and many more beyond those. It also contains large clouds made of gas and dust. But that's not all! Beyond our Milky Way, astronomers have seen millions of other galaxies. Each of these has billions of stars. Astronomers call space and everything in it the **universe**.



Our Solar System

1. What is the name of our galaxy? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What have astronomers seen beyond our galaxy? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. What is the universe? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. Which contains the largest group of objects—the solar system, the universe, or the Milky Way? \_\_\_\_\_
5. What two kinds of objects does the Milky Way contain? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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The Solar System



## Mystery Picture

Use the clues below to find the mystery picture! Read each sentence and then cross out the picture that does not belong. Which picture is left?

1. It is not Earth.



2. It is not an astronaut.



3. It is not a space shuttle.



4. It is not the Sun.



5. It is not a satellite.



6. It is not a rocket ship.



7. It is not a telescope.

What is the mystery picture?

\_\_\_\_\_



## Hunt for It!

Now that you know more about the solar system, see if you can find the hidden words from the Word Bank in the puzzle below. Circle the words as you find them.

### Word Bank

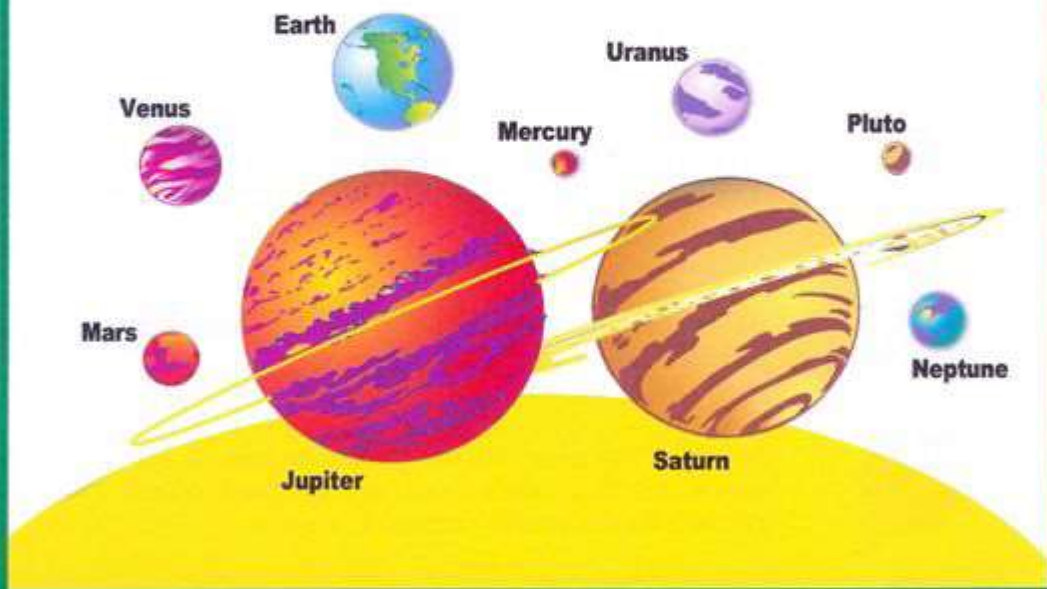
Planet	Meteor	Oort Cloud	Sun
Asteroid	Space	Milky Way	Solar System
Comet	Galaxy	Astronomer	Universe

M E T E O R Q G W E R T Y S U N  
S D T F G F R A P L I K M N N S  
A C Z B N M I L K Y W A Y W I S  
S B N M O P R A W E R S P R V N  
T X N O A T Y X W G H P A W E A  
R A S T R R T Y P O R S C R R S  
O R T O E A E P L J R G O O S D  
N S S O L A R S Y S T E M S E F  
O L K R J H G F S D D R E R S G  
M F G T S D E R S L K T T P O H  
E T R C S T O P P I O S D O P J  
R A S L D F S G A P P L A N E T  
T Y R O E W F S C D S A G H R K  
S A Q U W A S T E R O I D E R L  
Z X C D V B N M L K J H G F D P



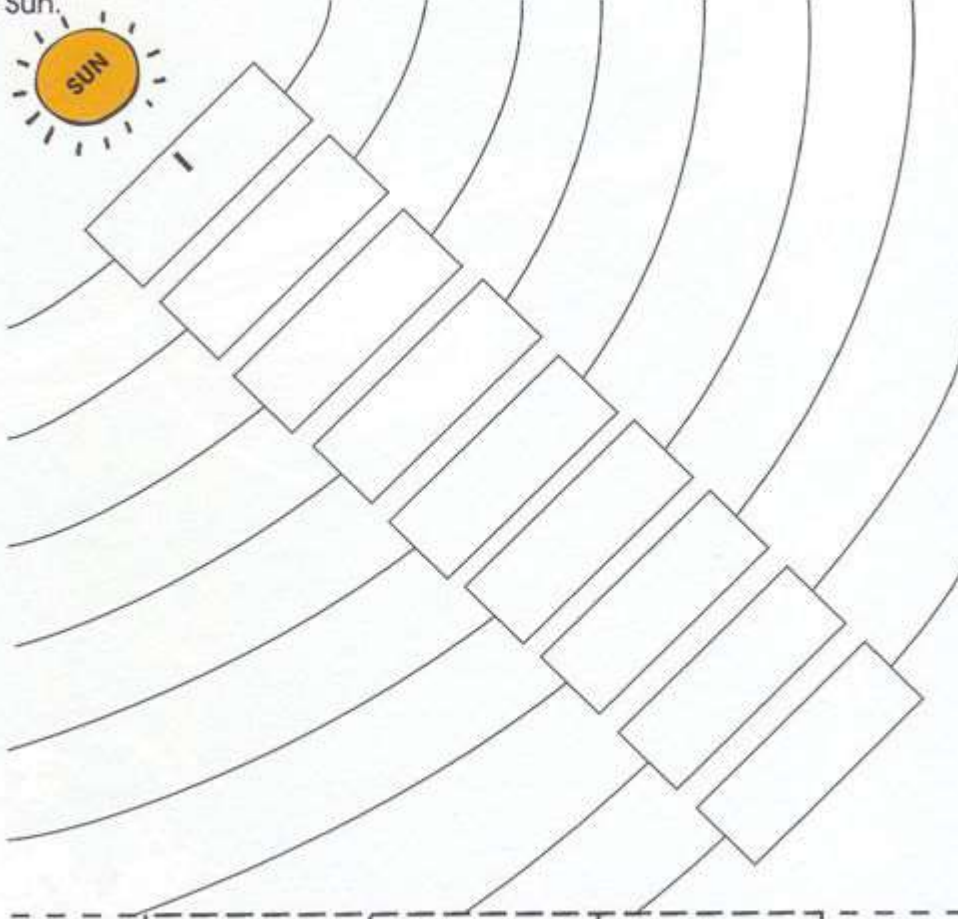
# THE Planets

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## Nine Planets Orbit Our Sun

Cut out the nine planets below and paste them in their correct order from the Sun.



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

## Fascinating Facts About Mercury



Mercury is the planet nearest to the Sun.

It is the second smallest planet in our solar system.

No planet experiences more radical temperature changes than Mercury. The temperature can rise to 800°F during the day and drop to -275°F at night.

Mercury is a world without an atmosphere. It has no air or life of any kind. It is also covered with thousands of ancient craters.

Because it is so near the Sun, Mercury can actually have two sunrises in a single day!

A solar day on Mercury, from sunrise to sunrise, lasts about six Earth months!

