

SPACE

A. Can you answer these questions?

- Name three or more planets that you remember
 - How many planets are there in our Solar System?
 - Can you name two famous space explorers?
 - What do the abbreviations 'NASA' & 'UFO' stand for?
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B. Can you fill in the blanks?

THE SOLAR SYSTEM

This is our Solar System. There are _____ planets. Mercury, Venus, _____, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, _____ and Neptune. All the planets revolve around a star. We call this star _____.

Each planet follows its own path around the sun. We call this path an_____.

C. Continue reading...

The Sun gives heat and light to all the planets. The closest planet to the sun is Mercury. It is the hottest planet in the Solar System. The farthest planet from the sun is Neptune. It is the coldest planet in the Solar System. The biggest planet is Jupiter. The smallest planet is Mercury.

Planet	Distance from the Sun (in Km)	Orbit Around the Sun (Earth days)	Temperature Average (in ° Celsius)
Mercury	57,9	88 days	+466
Venus	108,2	225 days	+482
Earth	149,6	365 days	+15
Mars	227,9	687 days	-63
Jupiter	778,3	12 years	-153
Saturn	1.429	30 years	-184
Uranus	2.875	84 years	-210
Neptune	4.504	165 years	-218

The planet we live on is Earth. It is between Venus and Mars. It takes 365 days for the Earth to complete one orbit, or one trip around the sun. This is how we measure a year.

How long is a year in Mercury?

KEY

How many planets...8

Two famous explorers... Neil Armstrong (first man to walk on the moon), Yuri Gagarin (Soviet cosmonaut and pilot. The first human to explore outer space), Michael Collins (Us astronaut command of Apollo 11, flew into space twice).

UFO: unidentified flying object. NASA: National Aeronautics and Space Administration

b. This is our Solar System. There are eight planets. Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune. All the planets revolve around a star. We call this star the Sun. Each planet follows its own path around the sun. We call this path an orbit.

c. Complete the gaps:

concentrate on the first column and compare the planets: how close is it to the sun?

Mercury is the closest planet to the sun.

Neptune is the farthest planet to the sun.

Mercury is closer to the sun than Venus.. etc etc.

Then..conclusion... hot and cold.

Mercury is _____ planet. (hot)

Neptune is _____ planet. (cold)

Another day...

Jupiter is _____ planet. (big)

Mercury is _____ planet. (small).