

Block 1 Week 18 Planets

Define system.	a group of objects that work or act together
Why is the sun important to Earth?	Without the sun there would be no life!
Describe the outer planets	Gassy giants
How many planets are in our solar system?	8
How many inner planets do we have?	4
Describe the inner planets.	rocky and dense
What is the asteroid belt?	a group of thousands of asteroids that revolve around the sun
Why is Pluto a dwarf planet?	Scientists changed the definition of a planet in 2006 and Pluto does not fit the new criteria
What keeps objects in orbit around the sun?	gravitational pull of the Sun and the planets
Define terrestrial	Hard and rocky
What type of planets are the first 4 planets?	inner planets
List the terrestrial planets in order	Mercury, Venus, Earth, then Mars
What is the nighttime temperature on Mercury?	-200 degrees Fahrenheit
Time of Mercury's orbit	88 Earth days
Brightest planet in the night sky (from Earth)	Venus
Venus is the same size as _____ and is also a _____ planet	Earth, terrestrial
Describe Venus's atmosphere	poisonous gas
Describe how hot Venus is	So hot it can melt lead
Time of Venus's rotation (spinning on its axis)	243 Earth days in a clockwise direction (opposite of other planets)
Why are we able to live on Earth?	It is the only planet that supports life

Why does Mars not support life?	It has a very thin atmosphere and is covered in volcanoes
What is an asteroid?	A huge chunk of rock that orbits the Sun

What is the most massive outer planet?	Jupiter
How many Earth years does it take Jupiter to orbit the Sun?	12 Earth years
How many Earths could fit inside Jupiter?	1000!
What is Jupiter's atmosphere made of?	mostly helium and hydrogen
How many moons does Jupiter have?	49
Saturn is the _____ planet	6th
What are Saturn's rings made of?	dust, rock, and ice chunks
_____ has been orbiting Saturn since 2004	Cassini satellite
Uranus is the ___ planet	7th
Uranus wasn't discovered until 1781 with the aid of _____	telescope
Uranus has _____ rings	11
Neptune is the _____ gas planet	last/4th
Neptune has _____ rings	6
Neptune is _____ miles away from the Sun	2.8 million
Saturn is mostly made up of _____ and _____	hydrogen and helium
How many moons does Saturn have?	60
What region in space is Pluto orbiting?	Kupier belt
How many dwarf planets are there in our solar system?	4 known

What do scientists call the dwarf planets in the Kupier Belt?	Plutoids
Why do the planets distances from Earth constantly change?	Every planet orbits the sun at a different rate

Why is distance a problem with outer planets? It would be difficult to design a spacecraft that could hold enough fuel to travel that far

What are 2 problems with landing on another	Temperature and distance
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planet?	