



Our Solar System



Read the passage below and answer the questions on the next page.

The solar system is made up of the sun and all the objects that orbit around it. These objects include planets, moons, asteroids, comets, and other small objects. There are eight planets in the solar system, and they are all very different from each other.

The inner planets are made up of rock and metal, and they are small and dense. They include Mercury, Venus, Earth, and Mars. Mercury is the smallest planet and it is also the closest to the sun. Venus is the hottest planet because it has a thick atmosphere that traps heat. Earth is the only planet in the solar system known to have life. Mars is the fourth planet from the sun and it is known for its red color, which comes from iron oxide (rust) on its surface.

The outer planets are made up of gas and ice, and they are much larger and less dense than the inner planets. They include Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune. Jupiter is the largest planet in the solar system and it is known for its Great Red Spot, a giant storm that has been raging for hundreds of years. Saturn is known for its beautiful rings, which are made up of ice and rock. Uranus is a strange planet because it rotates on its side, so its seasons are very different from those on Earth. Neptune is the farthest planet from the sun and it is known for its blue color, which is caused by methane in its atmosphere.

In addition to the eight planets, there are also many moons in the solar system. Some of the most well-known moons include Earth's moon, the moon of Jupiter called Europa, and the moons of Saturn called Titan and Enceladus.

The solar system is an amazing and complex place, full of diverse and fascinating objects. It is constantly being studied and explored by scientists and astronomers, and there is still so much we have yet to learn about it.

1) What are the eight planets in the solar system?

2) What are the inner planets made of?

3) What is unique about the planet Venus?

4) What is the Great Red Spot on Jupiter?

5) What is the farthest planet from the sun?
