



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# The Planets of Our Solar System

Did you know our solar system is a busy place, filled with planets of all shapes and sizes? Let's take a journey through our cosmic neighborhood and learn about these amazing worlds!

Closest to the Sun, Mercury is the smallest planet in our solar system. It's only about 3,032 miles wide! It's super hot during the day, reaching temperatures of around 800 degrees Fahrenheit, but freezing at night. Mercury doesn't have an atmosphere and looks a bit like our moon with its rocky surface.

Venus comes second from the Sun and is almost the same size as Earth. It's often called Earth's twin because of its similar size and gravity. But watch out, it's super hot all the time, with an average temperatures around 900 degrees Fahrenheit. Venus has thick clouds made of acid!

Earth is the third planet from the Sun and the only one we know of that supports life. It's just the right distance from the Sun for water to exist in liquid form, and it's neither too hot nor too cold for life to thrive.

Known as the Red Planet, Mars is the fourth planet from the Sun. It's smaller than Earth and has the tallest volcano and the longest canyon in our solar system. Mars has a thin atmosphere and super cold temperatures, averaging around minus 80 degrees Fahrenheit.

The biggest planet in our solar system is Jupiter! It's so massive that more than 1,300 Earths could fit inside it! Jupiter has a giant storm called the Great Red Spot, which is larger than Earth. It's super cold at the top of its clouds but gets hotter the deeper you go.

Famous for its beautiful rings made of bits of ice and rock, Saturn is the sixth planet from the Sun. It's not as dense as water, so if you could find a big enough bathtub, Saturn would float! Saturn's temperatures are chilly, averaging around minus 220 degrees Fahrenheit.

Uranus is the seventh planet from the Sun and is tilted on its side! It's about four times wider than Earth and is an icy, bluish-green color. Temperatures on Uranus average as low as minus 370 degrees Fahrenheit.

Last but not least, Neptune is the farthest planet from the Sun. It's a frigid world, with temperatures averaging to minus 330 degrees Fahrenheit. Neptune has winds that can blow faster than the speed of sound!

Each planet in our solar system has its own unique characteristics, making our cosmic family a fascinating and diverse place!"





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Planet	Average Temperature	Average Temperature	Number of Moons
Mercury	333F	167°C	0
Venus	867°F	464°C	0
Earth	59°F	15°C	1
Mars	-85°F	-65°C	2
Jupiter	-166°F	-110°C	95
Saturn	-220°F	-140°C	146
Uranus	-320°F	-195°C	27
Neptune	-330°F	-200°C	14

1. What information is found in the text passage, but NOT the table?
  - a) the order of the planet from the Sun
  - b) the average temperature of each planet
  - c) how many moons each planet has
2. What information is found in the table, but NOT in the text?
  - a) fun facts about each planet
  - b) how many moons each planet has
  - c) the average temperature of some of the planets
3. How is the data in the table presented?
  - a) from lowest average temperature to highest average temperature
  - b) alphabetical order
  - c) smallest number of moons to largest number of moons
  - d) order from the Sun



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4. Use the table and the text to complete the "Claim to Fame" table below.

CLAIM TO FAME	PLANET
This planet has the most moons.	
This planet is the hottest in our solar system.	
This planet is the only one we know of with life.	
This planet has the tallest volcano.	
This planet is tilted completely on its side.	
This planet is the closest to the Sun.	
This planet has winds that blow faster than the speed of sound.	
This planet is the largest in the solar system.	

Earth

Neptune

Mars

Saturn

Mercury

Uranus

Venus

Jupiter