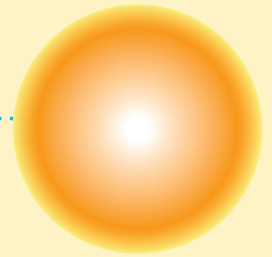


Solar System

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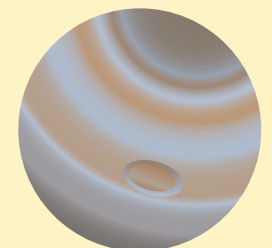
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Glossary

asteroid rocky object that orbits the Sun mostly in an area between Mars and Jupiter

astronomer scientist who observes and studies space

atmosphere all the gases that surround a planet

axis imaginary straight line through the center of an object, around which the object spins or rotates

comet frozen chunk of dust, ice, and gases that orbits the Sun

crater bowl-shaped hole made by an object hitting another object

day length of time a planet takes to make one complete turn on its axis

Earth third planet from the Sun

ellipse shape like an oval

gas giant large planet that is made of gases

gravity natural force between objects that makes them pull toward each other

inner planet any of the four planets closest to the Sun (Mercury, Venus, Earth, or Mars)

Jupiter fifth planet from the Sun

Mars fourth planet from the Sun

Mercury planet closest to the Sun

meteor brightly burning meteoroid falling through a planet's atmosphere

meteorite meteor that reaches a planet's surface without completely burning up

meteoroid rocky object that is smaller than an asteroid and orbits the Sun

moon natural satellite of a planet

Moon name of Earth's natural satellite

Neptune eighth planet from the Sun

orbit path an object takes when revolving around another object

outer planet any of the four planets farthest from the Sun (Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, or Neptune)

phase shape of the Moon that appears at a certain time during the Moon's cycle of changes

planet large, ball-shaped satellite of a star

Pluto a dwarf planet

revolution one trip around an orbit

revolve to move in an orbit around something

rotate to spin on an axis

satellite object that revolves around a larger object

Saturn sixth planet from the Sun

solar having to do with the Sun

solar system a star and all the satellites that orbit it

space probe spacecraft used to explore the Solar System

star enormous ball of glowing gas that gives off heat and light

Sun name for the central star in our Solar System

telescope device that creates a larger image of a faraway object

Uranus seventh planet from the Sun

Venus second planet from the Sun

year length of time a planet takes to make one complete revolution around the Sun