



Solar System Comprehension

Upper Primary Advance Science

Our Solar System

Our solar system is made up of the Sun and everything that orbits around it. This includes eight planets, 146 known moons, dwarf planets, asteroids, comets, and countless smaller rocks and particles made of ice and dust. The Sun sits at the centre and provides the heat and light that make life possible on Earth.



The eight planets in order from the Sun are Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune. Mercury is the smallest and closest planet to the Sun, while Neptune is the farthest. The four inner planets (Mercury, Venus, Earth, and Mars) are rocky, while the four outer planets (Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune) are mostly made of gas or ice.

Earth takes 365 days, or one year, to orbit the Sun. Other planets take longer or shorter times depending on how far they are from the Sun. Most planets follow orbits that are shaped like slightly stretched circles called ellipses. Many planets also have moons that orbit them. For example, Earth has one moon, while Jupiter has more than 90.

Astronomers are scientists who study space. They use telescopes, satellites, and space missions to learn more about planets, stars, and galaxies. Thanks to astronomers, we now know that our solar system is only one of billions in our galaxy, the Milky Way.

Read the passage above and answer the questions that follow.

1. What is at the centre of our solar system?
 - a) Earth
 - b) The Moon
 - c) The Sun
 - d) Jupiter
2. How many planets are in our solar system?
 - a) Seven
 - b) Eight
 - c) Nine
 - d) Ten
3. Which planet is farthest from the Sun?
 - a) Mars
 - b) Jupiter
 - c) Uranus
 - d) Neptune



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Read the passage above and answer the questions that follow.

4. What type of planets are Mercury, Venus, Earth, and Mars?

- a) Gas giants
- b) Ice planets
- c) Rocky planets
- d) Dwarf planets



5. What shape are most planetary orbits?

- a) Triangular
- b) Perfect circles
- c) Ellipses
- d) Spirals

6. How long does Earth take to orbit the Sun?

- a) 24 hours
- b) 30 days
- c) 365 days
- d) 12 hours

7. Which planet has more than 90 moons?

- a) Earth
- b) Mars
- c) Jupiter
- d) Mercury

8. What are astronomers?

- a) Scientists who study the human body
- b) Scientists who study space and celestial objects
- c) People who build rockets
- d) Weather experts

9. What galaxy contains our solar system?

- a) Andromeda
- b) Milky Way
- c) Whirlpool
- d) Sombrero



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