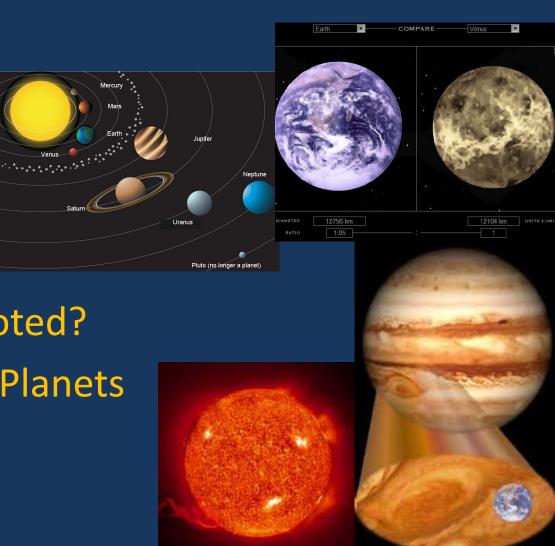
Space – Our Solar System

- Our Solar System
- The Sun
- The Inner Planets
- The Outer Planets
- Why was Pluto demoted?
- Observing Stars and Planets
- The Moon



What if the other planet were as close as the moon?

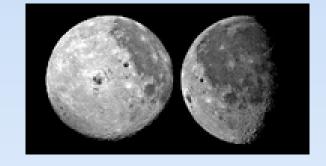
The moon is very close and therefore looks large in the sky.
 The planets inside our solar system are much larger but are much further and therefore, look very small.



OUR SOLAR SYSTEM

• The Sun

Eight Planets

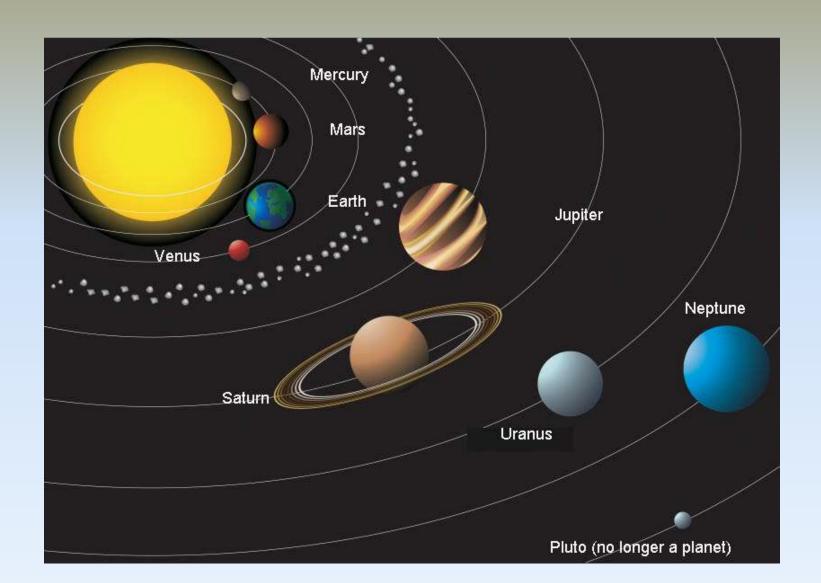


Some Moons

Many Comets and asteroids



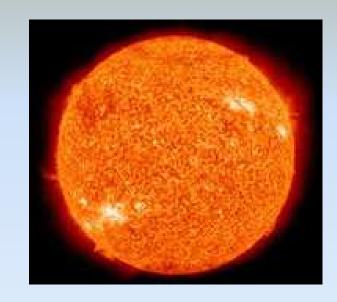
Our Solar System



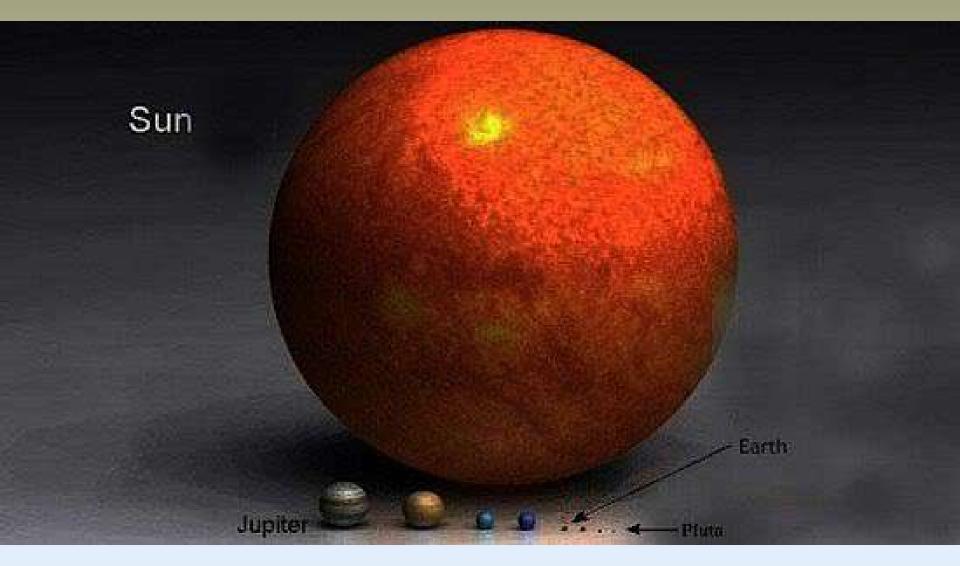
The Sun

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- Sun converts hydrogen to helium in its core (fusion)
- Core conditions



The Sun is Huge!!



The Inner Planets



MERCURY

 Shortest orbit around the Sun (0.24 Earth Years)

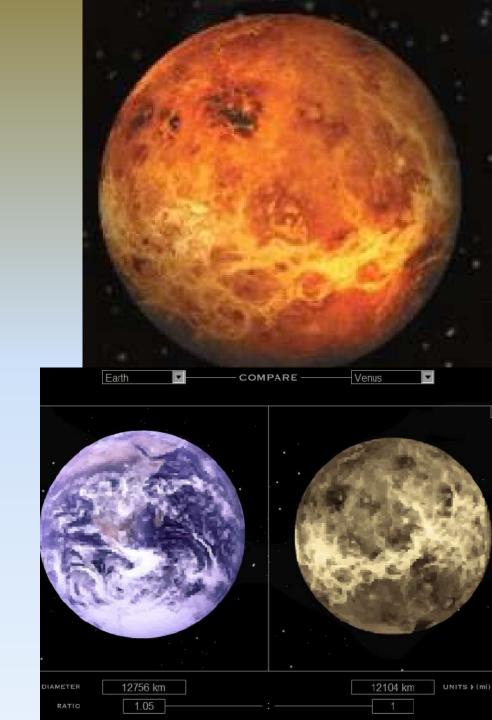




VENUS

Orbit (0.62 Earth Years)

- Brightest in the sky
- Rocky ball
- Huge greenhouse effect
 → very high
 temperatures (~800 F)



EARTH

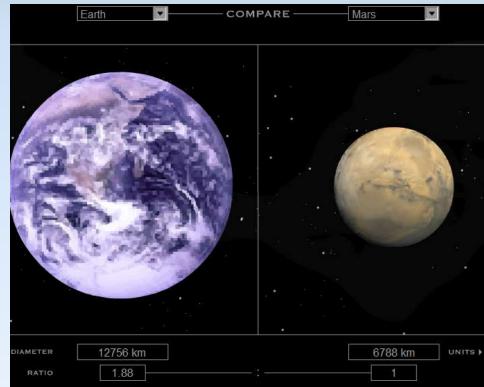
- Orbit 365.25 days
- Only planet known to sustain life in the Universe



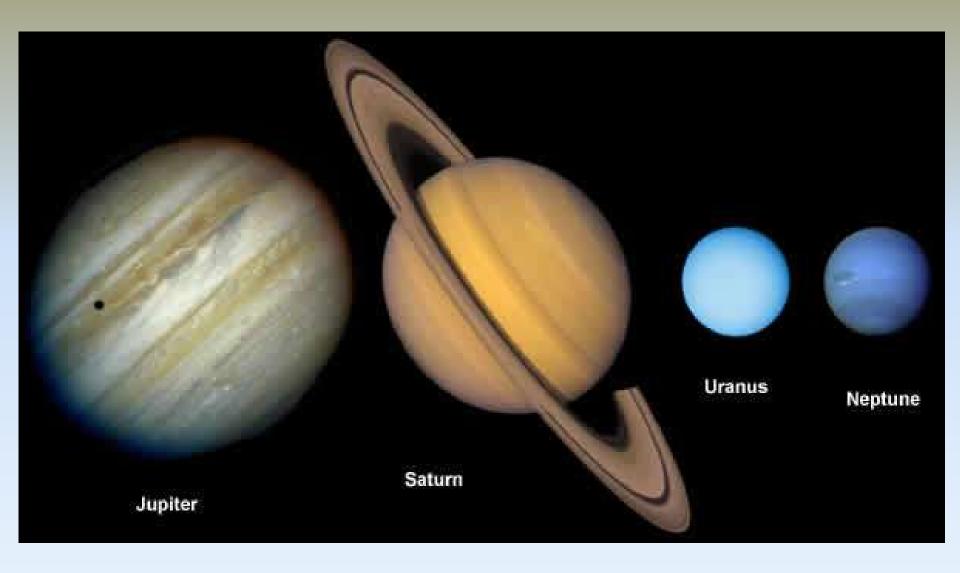
MARS

- Mars is known as the red planet due to the rust covering the surface
- Orbit (1.88 Earth Years)
- Earth's diameter is 1.88 times larger
- Rocky ball





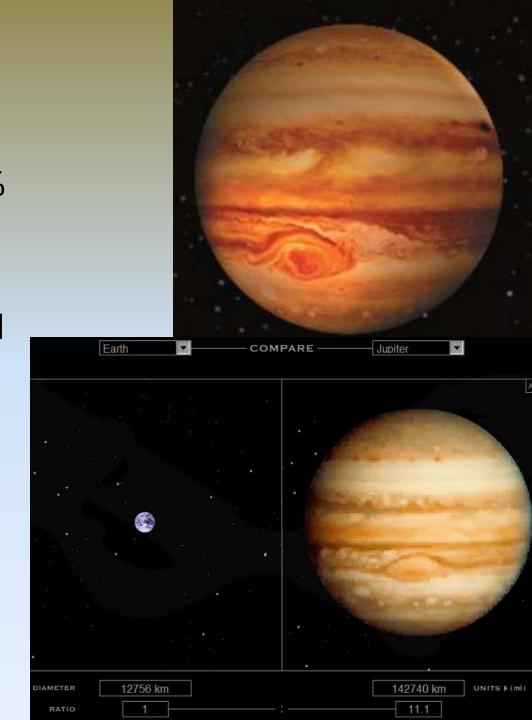
The Outer Planets



JUPITER

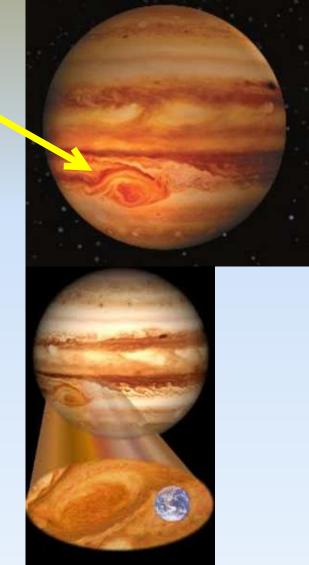
- Jupiter contains over 70%
 of the mass in the solar
 system outside the Sun.
- Jupiter is a ball of gas and liquid (mostly hydrogen and helium).

 Its diameter is 11.1 times larger than Earth's



Jupiter's Great Red Spot

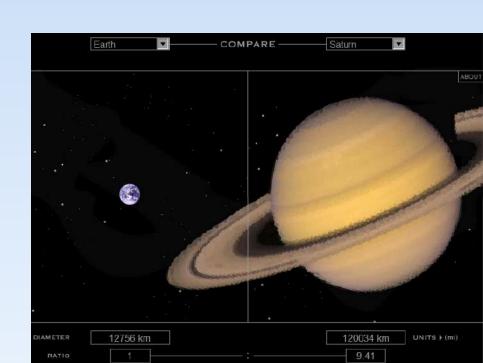
- Has a great red spot
- It is a storm that has been going on for at least 400 years



SATURN

- Made of gas
- ____
- Identified by its many rings composed of ice particles
- Orbit (29.46 Earth years)
- It's diameter Is 9.41 times

larger than Earth's



URANUS

- Made of gas
- Thinner ring system

- Orbit (84.01 Earth Years)
- Its diameter is 4 times larger than Earth's
- Is flipped on its side (caused by a collision??)



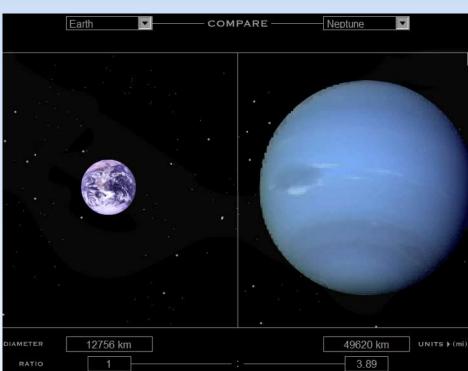


NEPTUNE

- Outermost planet and is made of gas
- Its composition and atmosphere is similar to Uranus

- Orbit (164.8 Earth Years)
- Its diameter is 3.8 times larger than Earth's





PLUTO



- No longer considered a Planet
- Is the second most massive known dwarf planet in the Solar System (after Eris)

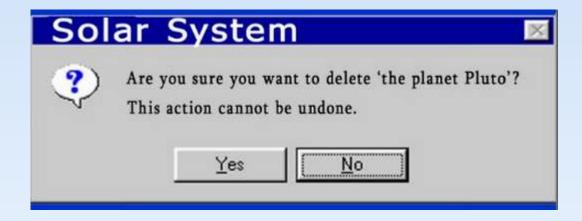
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Pluto



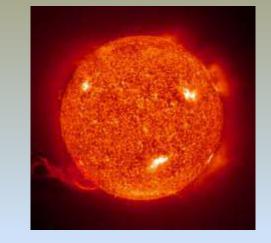
Why was Pluto demoted?

- Really small smaller than the Moon
- Too many similar objects instead of adding 1000's of planets, they removed one
- It has a very strange orbit



Observing Stars and Planets

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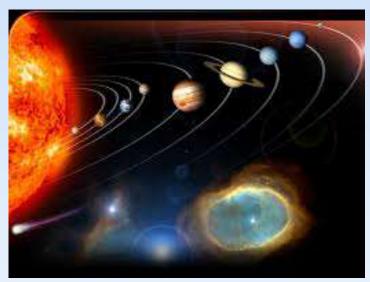
- A planet is a smaller ball of rock (or gas) that goes around a star
- We can see the planets Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn and Mercury without a telescope at certain times of the year



 the Sun and all the objects that travel around it make up the Solar System

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- planets and moons are called nonluminous because they do not produce their own light; they reflect the light of the Sun
- our Sun is also a star



The Moon

- The Moon has several effects on the earth
 - -e.g. tides, night-time illumination, tilt and rotational speed.
- Earth's diameter is 3.7 times larger

