

MOON, STARS AND PLANETS

The Moon

The moon moves around the Earth.

The moon is not a planet.

Earth has one moon. Some other planets have no moons, some only have one moon, and some have many moons.



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The Moon

Because of the way the Moon circles the Earth and reflects the light of the Sun, we can see a different amount of the Moon each night.

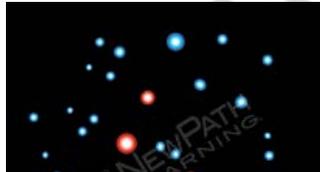


This daily change in what we see of the Moon is called the **Moon's phases**. A new moon can't be seen on Earth. The side of the moon that is facing the Earth is not lit by Sun. The entire Moon phase cycle takes about 29 1/2 days.

*Let's check what we have learned so far:
What are the daily changes of the moon called?*

Stars

A **star** is a hot ball of gas.
Stars give off light.
The **Sun** is a star.



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Planets

A **planet** is a large object that orbits around the Sun.
Orbit means to go around in a path around something.

Planets do not give off light. They just reflect sunlight.
Reflect means to bounce off of.

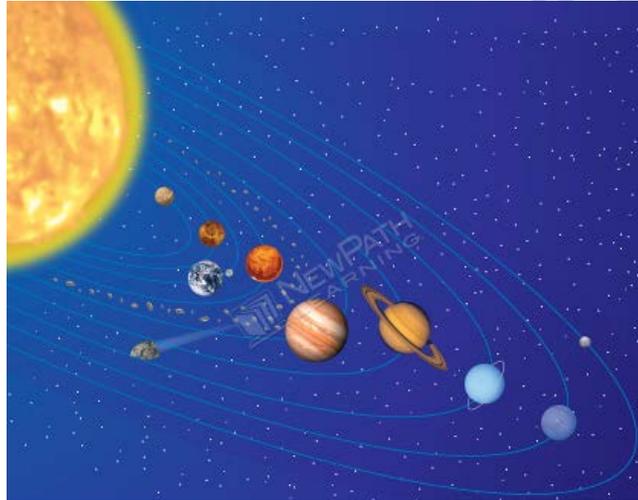
There are **8 planets in our solar system**: Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune. Pluto used to be considered a planet but it is now known by scientists as a dwarf planet.

A **telescope** helps us see stars. It is a tool that makes things that are far away look close.

*Let's check what we have learned so far:
What is a planet?*

What is the solar system?

The solar system is the sun, all planets, their moons, and other objects in space.



Everything

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Let's look

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Mercury: It is the planet closest to the Sun.
It has no water or air.

It is very dry.



Venus: It is the 2nd planet from the Sun.
It is smaller than Earth.



Earth: It is the 3rd planet from the Sun.



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Mars: It is the 4th planet from the Sun.
It is known as the "Red Planet" because it looks red.



Jupiter: It is the 5th planet from the Sun.
It is made of gases.
It is the **largest** planet in the solar system.
It is known for its large red spot.



Saturn: It is the 6th planet from the Sun.
It is made of gases.



PREVIEW

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Uranus: It is the 7th planet from the Sun.
It is a blue planet.



It looks like it spins on its side.

Neptune: It is the 8th planet from the Sun.
It is the farthest planet from the Sun.
It is the coldest planet of the solar system.



*Let's check what we have learned so far:
What is the 5th planet from the Sun?*



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