

# The Sun

The Solar System is named after the sun. The word 'sol' means sun.

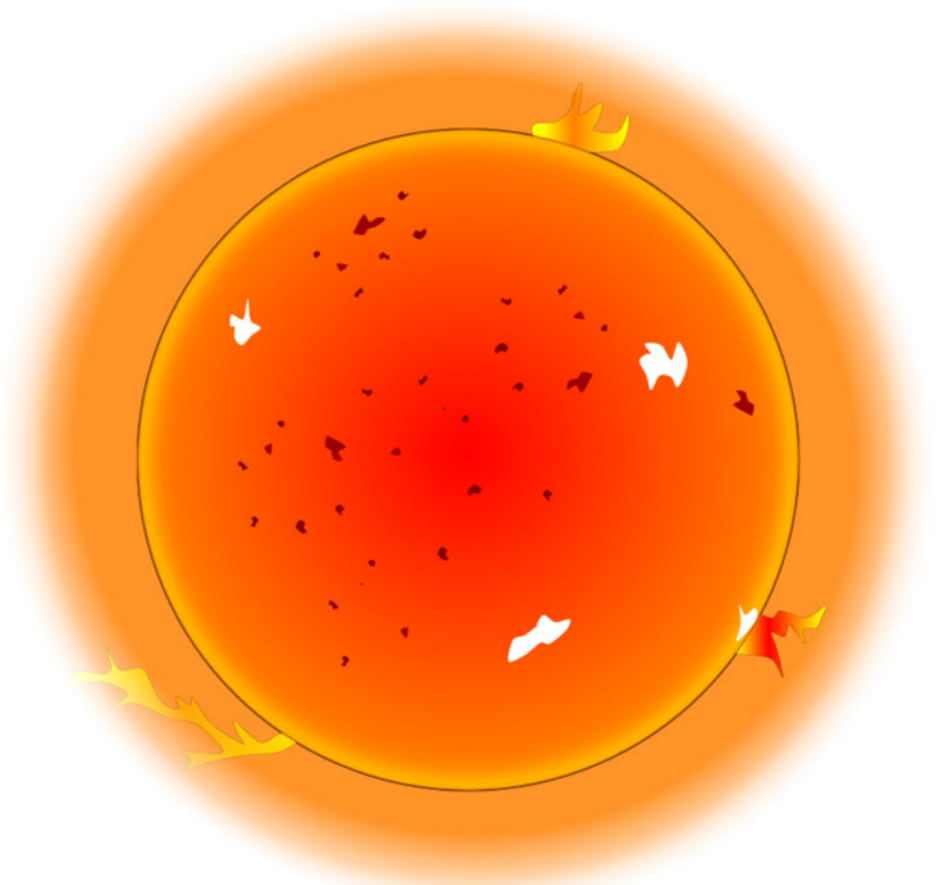
All of the Solar System planets revolve around the Sun.

The Sun is a small-sized star.

It consists of extremely hot gases at temperatures exceeding  $6000^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

The Sun provides the light and heat that animals and plants on Earth need to survive.

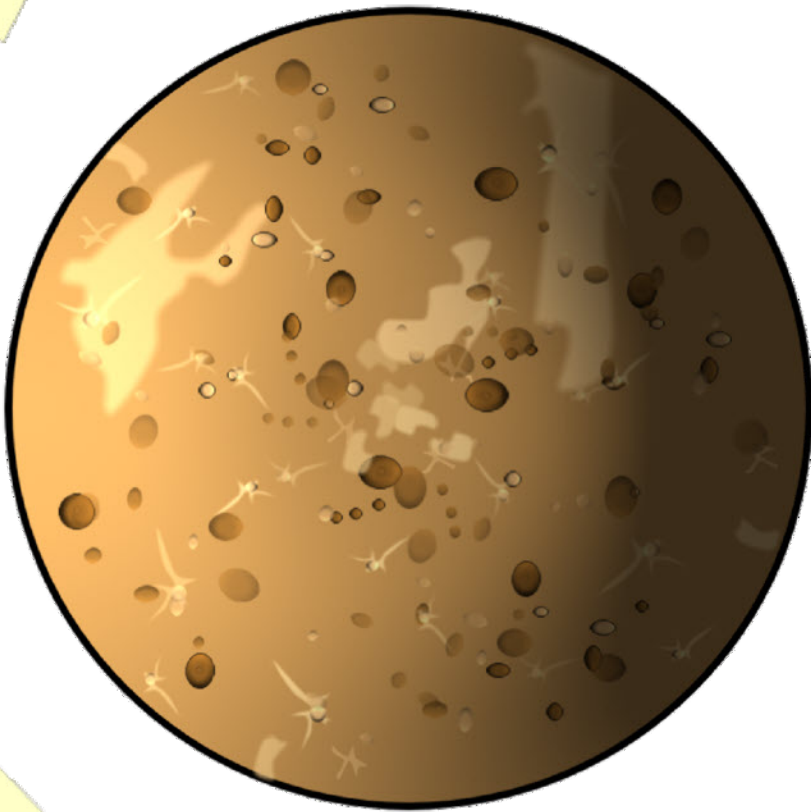
It is 93 million miles from Earth



# Mercury

Mercury is the planet that's closest to the Sun.

It is very hot and has no water or air and doesn't have any moons.



It is covered with asteroid craters on the surface.

Its year is only 88 days - this is how long it takes to revolve around the sun.

Mercury has extreme temperatures. The side facing the sun is searing hot and the dark side is freezing cold.

# Venus

Venus is the second planet from the sun.

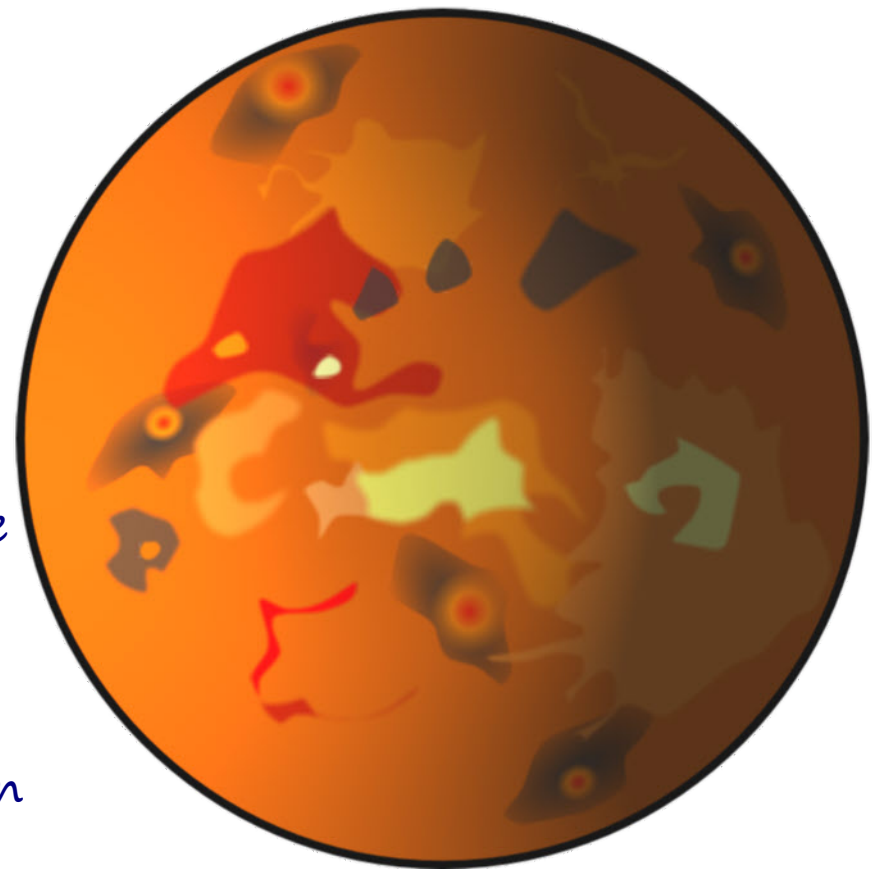
The surface is so hot that you could melt metal there.

There is no oxygen or water.

It takes 255 days for Venus to revolve around the sun.

Venus rotates in the opposite direction to the other planets.

It is covered with poisonous acid clouds which trap in the Sun's heat.



# Earth

Earth is the 3rd planet from the Sun.

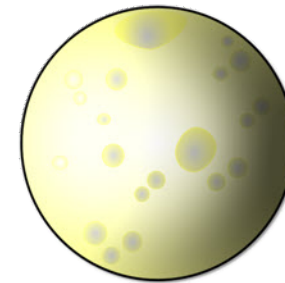
Water is abundant on the surface.

It is the only known planet to have plant life and animals on it.

It takes about 365 days to revolve around the Sun - one Earth year.

It takes 24 hours for one full rotation on its axis - one Earth day.

Earth has one moon that revolves around it.





# Mars

Mars is often known as the 'Red Planet' because of its red rocky surface.

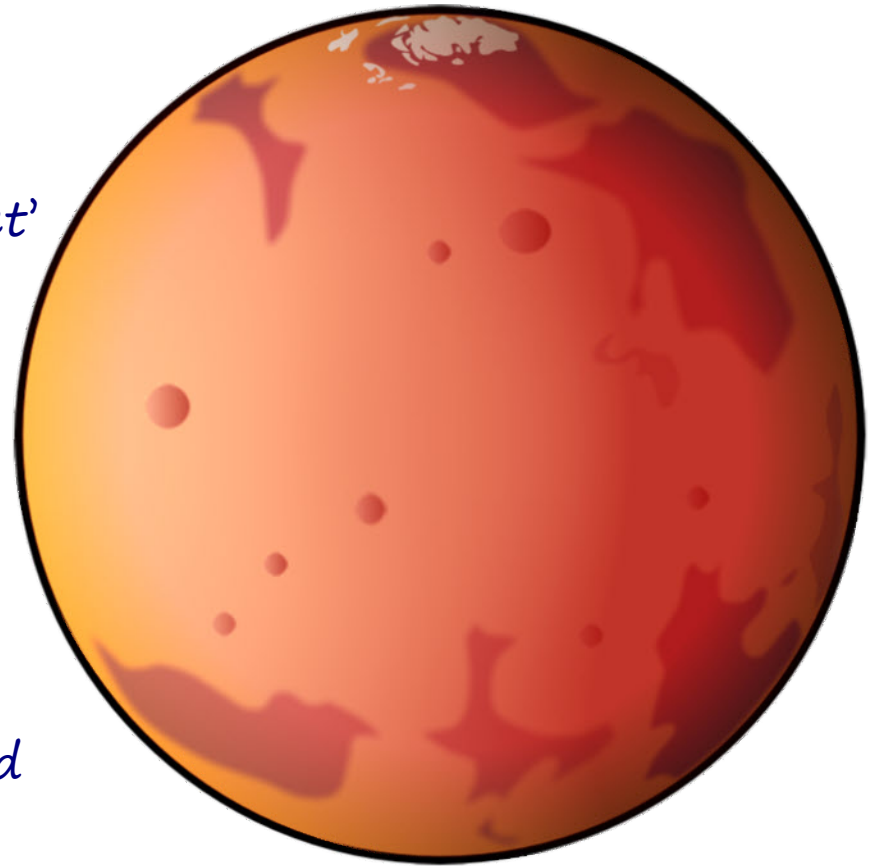
Mars' surface is rocky and is covered with volcanoes, craters, canyons, mountains and red dust.

It has 2 small moons called Phobos and Deimos.

It takes 687 Earth days to revolve around the Sun.

Mars has a very thin atmosphere of mainly carbon dioxide.

Severe dust storms can cover the whole planet for months at a time.



# Jupiter

Jupiter is the largest planet -  
1000 Earths could fit inside it!

It is the 5th planet from the Sun.

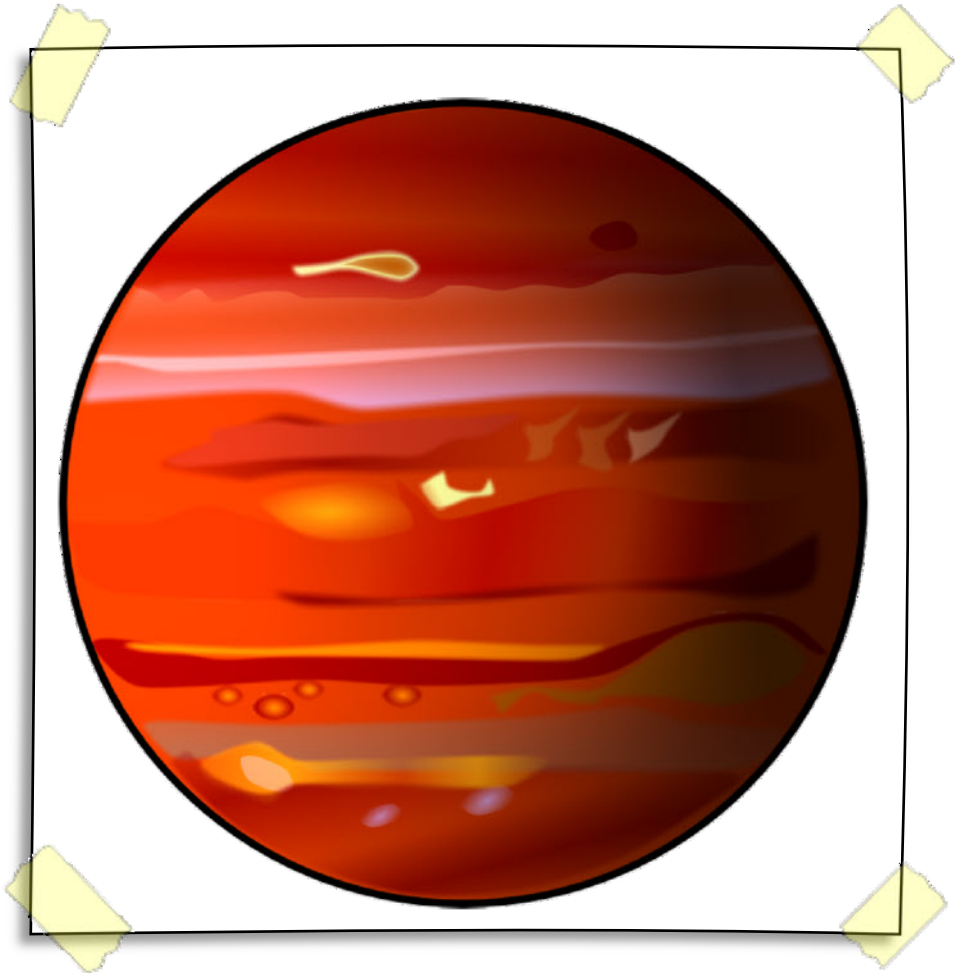
Jupiter is made of gases that swirl  
in storms that last for years.

It does not have a solid surface.

Its famous 'red spot' is 3 times the size of planet Earth.

It has faint rings of ice and dust that circle the planet, and 16 moons  
revolve around it!

Jupiter takes 12 Earth years to revolve around the sun.



# Saturn

Saturn is the 6th planet from the Sun.

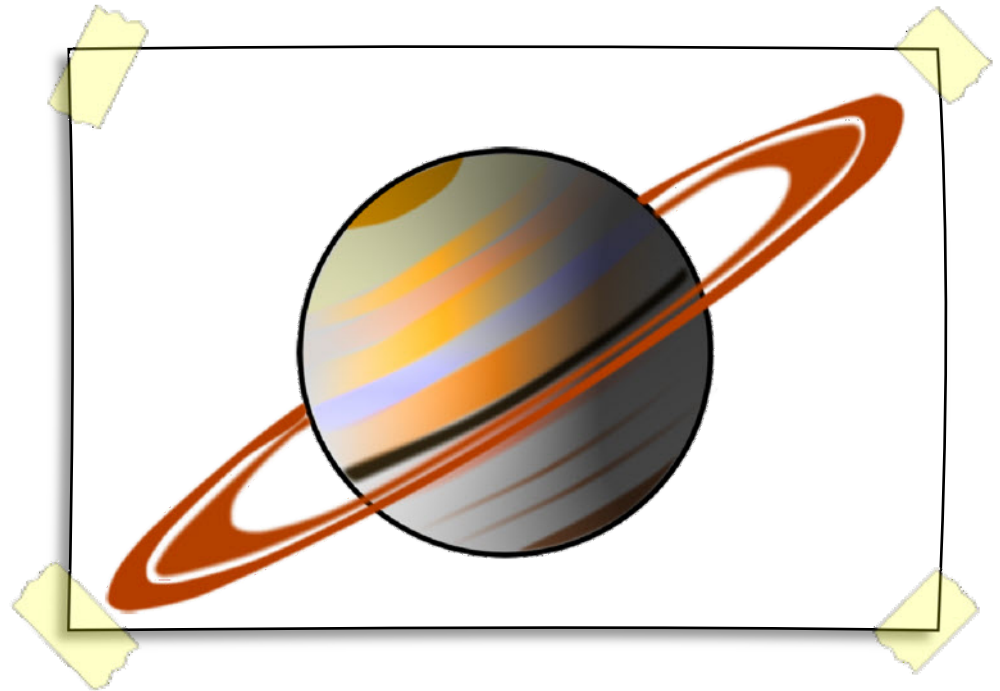
It is made of gases that are lighter than water.

The planet has strong storms with lightning and auroras.

Saturn is encircled by thousands of rings that are made up of ice, rock and dust.

Saturn has at least 31 moons but astronomers keep finding new ones!

Saturn takes 29.5 to revolve around the Sun.



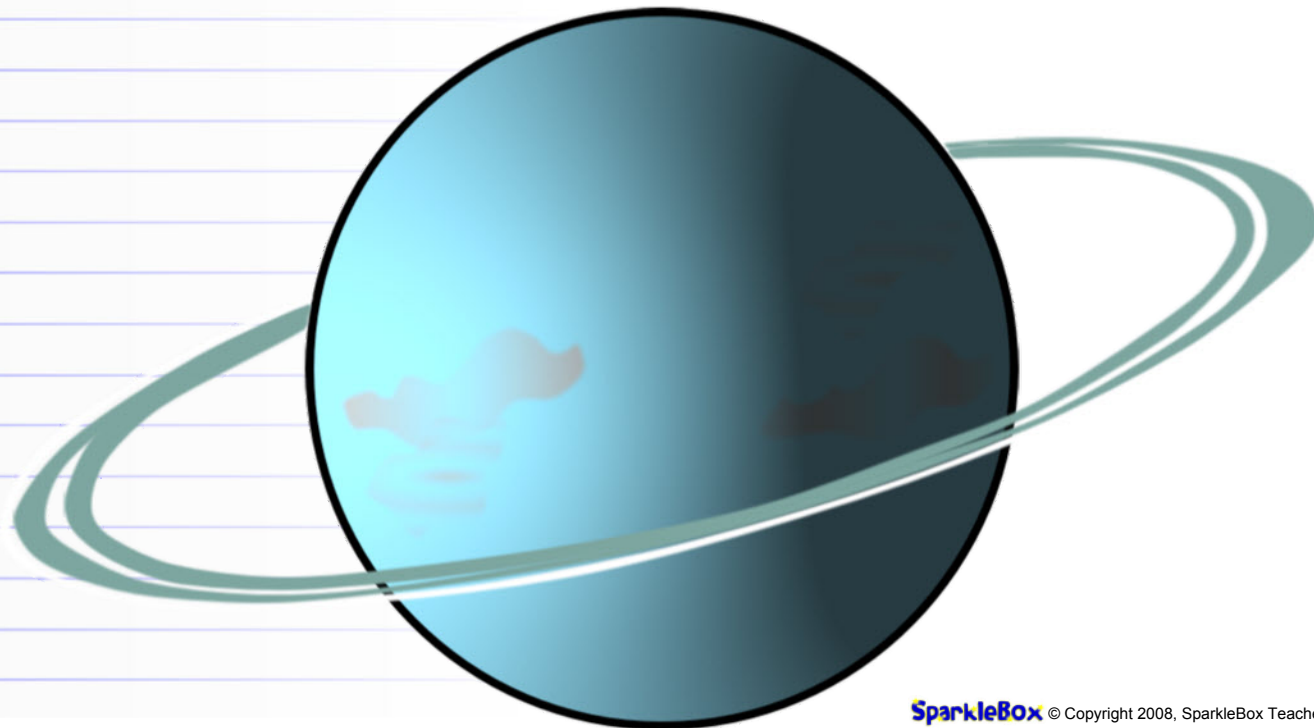
# Uranus

Uranus is a gas planet .

The whole planet is covered with a thick, blue-green fog.

It is circled by rings and has grey-coloured moons which astronomers think are made from graphite.

One year on Uranus is the same as 84 Earth years.





# Neptune

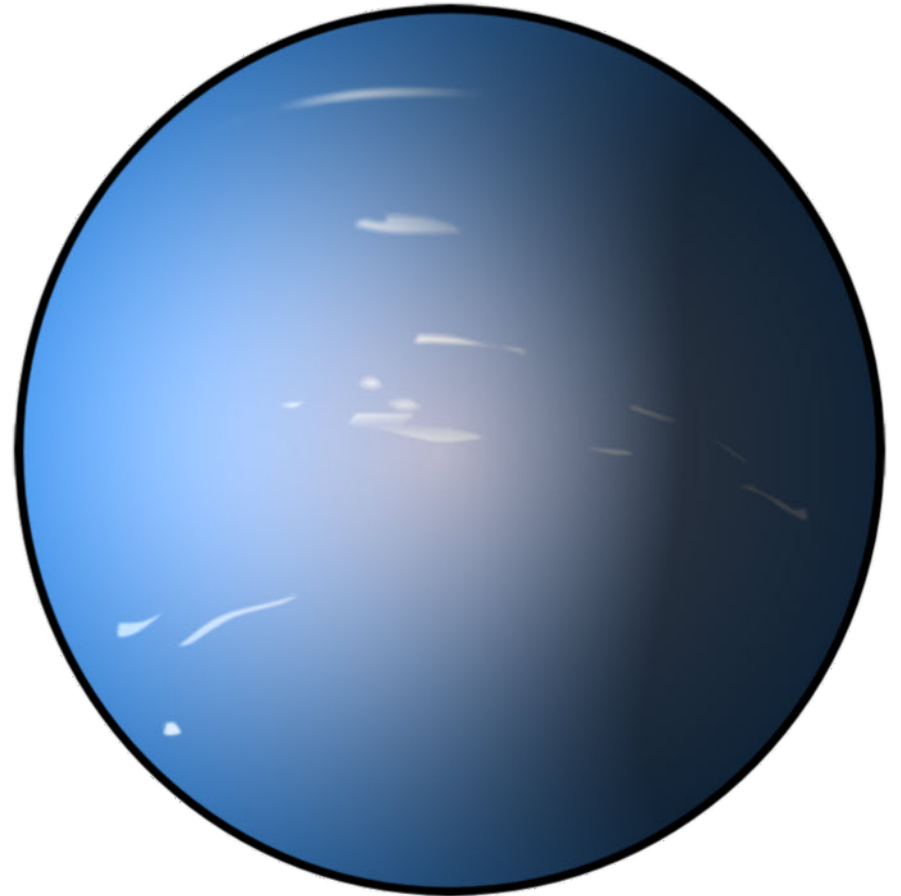
Neptune is the last gas-planet in the Solar System.

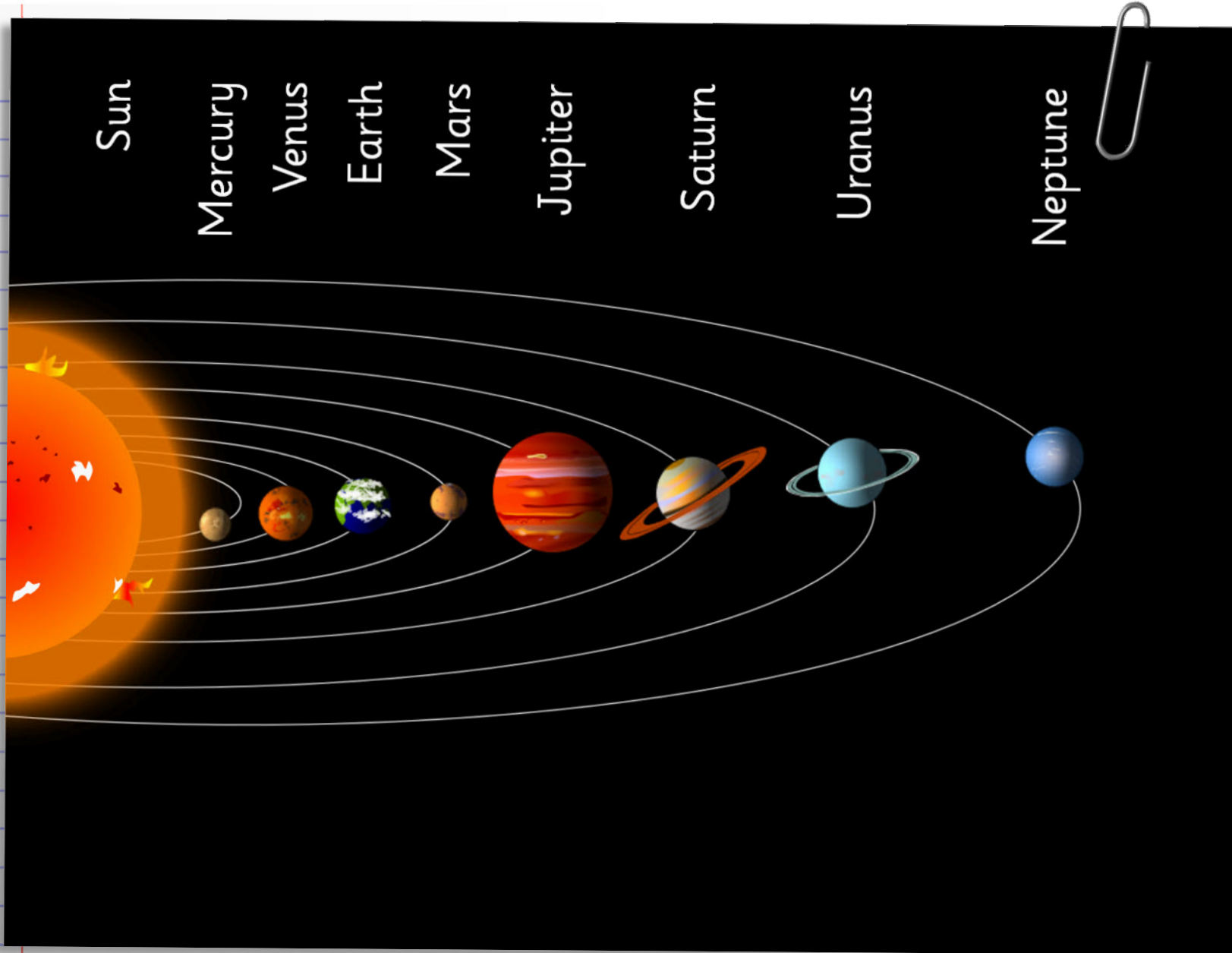
It is almost 3 billion miles away from the Sun and is one of the coldest planets.

It takes 165 Earth years for it to revolve around the Sun.

Its atmosphere is mostly hydrogen, helium and methane gases.

Neptune is the 8th planet and final planet in our Solar System.





# The Solar System