

Characteristics of the Solar System

Picture Vocabulary

5.E 5.1, 5.2, and 5.3 Characteristics of the Solar System

Galaxy



A large group of stars held together by gravitation and separated from other groups of stars by large regions of space

Gas



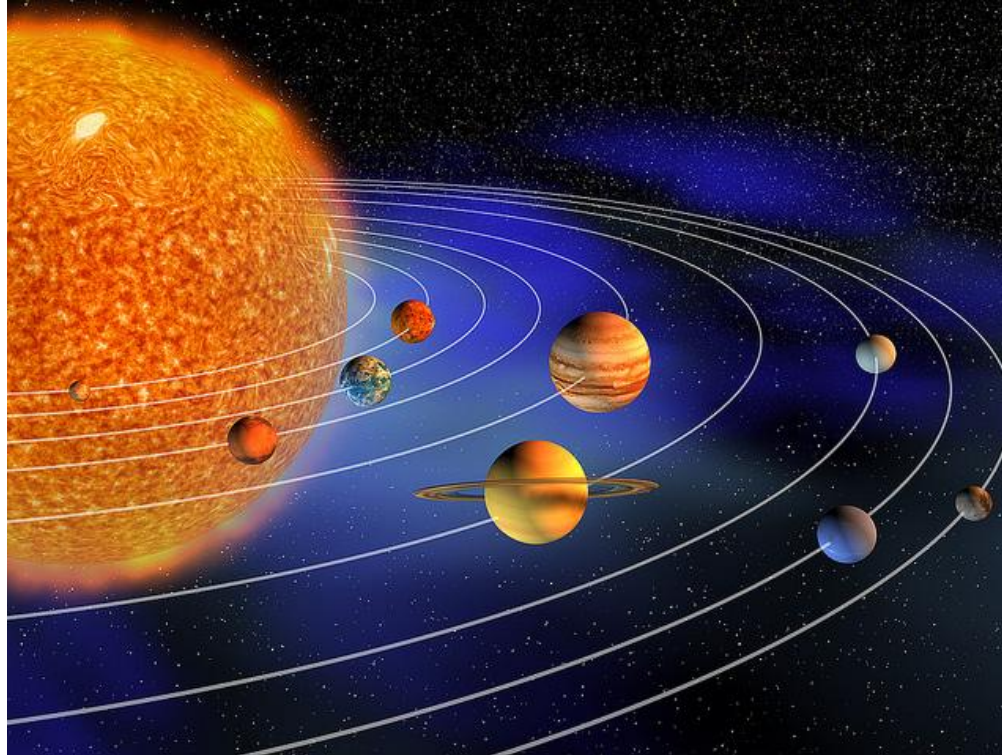
Material that is not a liquid or a solid

Star



A ball of gas in space that produces its own heat and light

Orbit



The path one object takes as it revolves around another object in space

Milky Way



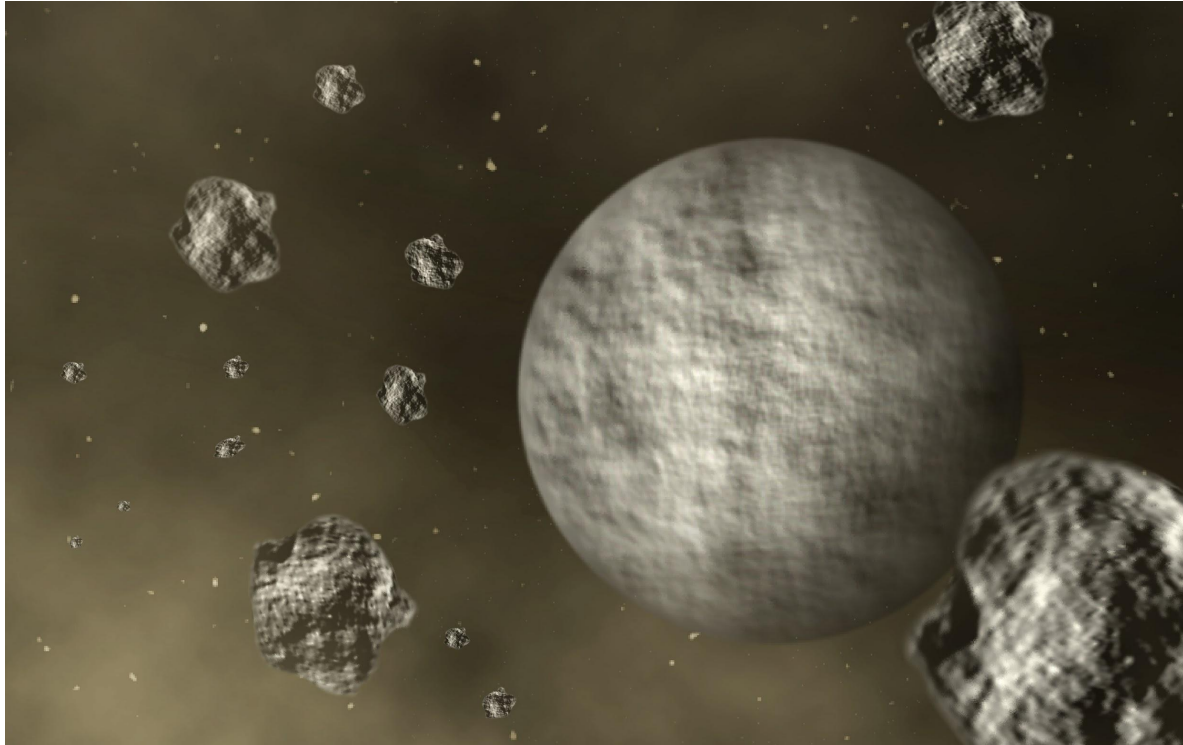
Milky Way is the galaxy that contains our solar system. Its name is derived from its appearance as a dim glowing band arching across the night sky in which the naked eye cannot distinguish individual stars.

Home Galaxy



A galaxy that an individual is from

Inner Planets



Any of the rocky, terrestrial planets (Mercury, Venus, Earth, and Mars) whose orbits are inside the asteroid belt

Outer Planets



Any of the planets (Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune) whose orbits lie beyond the asteroid belt

Sun



The star at the center of our solar system that supplies heat and light to Earth; its enormous gravity keeps the solar system in orbit

Planets



Any of the large celestial bodies that revolve around the Sun in the solar system

Moon



A natural satellite that orbits a planet; some planets have no moons and others have over 60 moons

Asteroids



Large and small rocks or metallic masses orbiting the Sun; made up of materials similar to those that formed the planets

Asteroid Belt



The region between the inner and outer planets where most asteroids orbit around the Sun

Comet



A celestial body of ice, dust, and rock with an elongated and elliptical orbit

Terrestrial



Earth-like

Celestial Objects



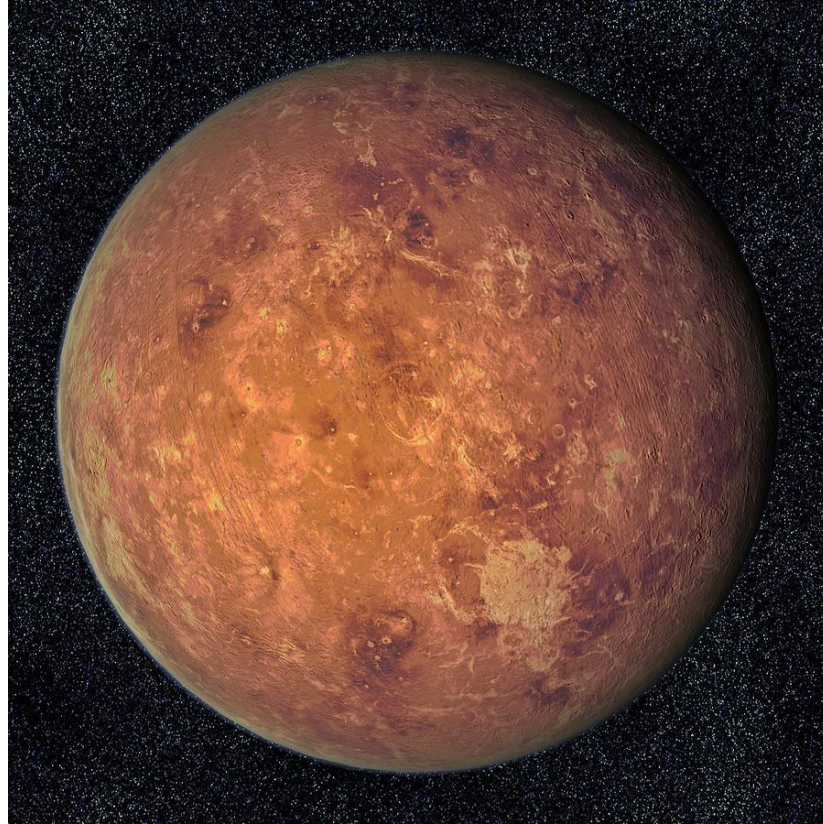
Objects such as planets, moons, and stars that are located in the sky or in space

Mercury



The closest planet to the Sun

Venus



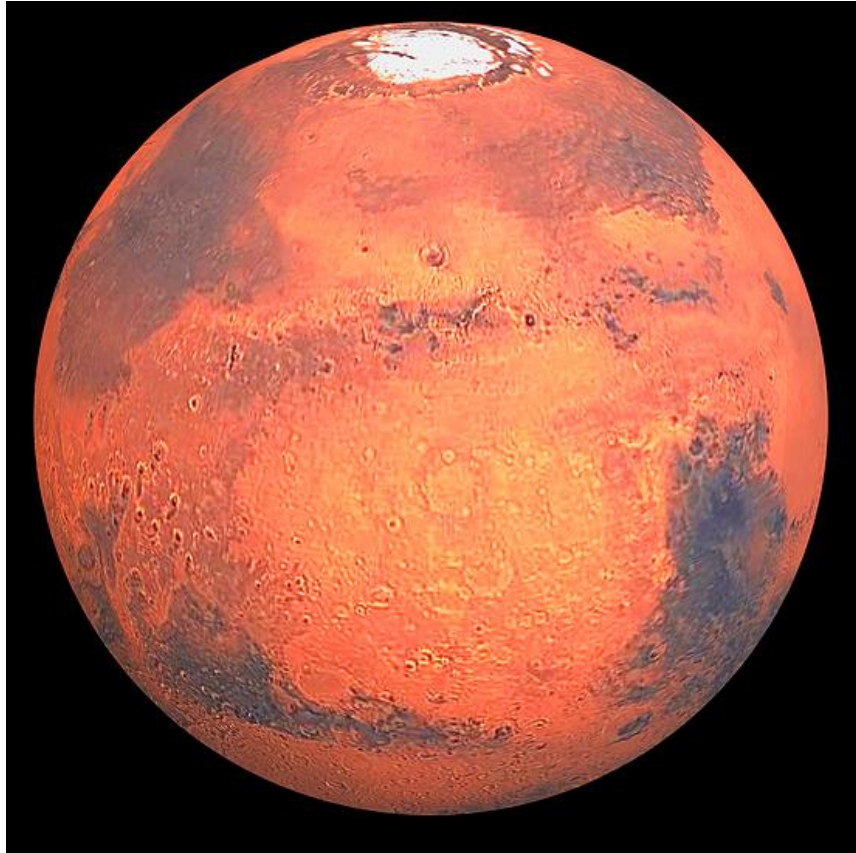
The second planet from the Sun

Earth



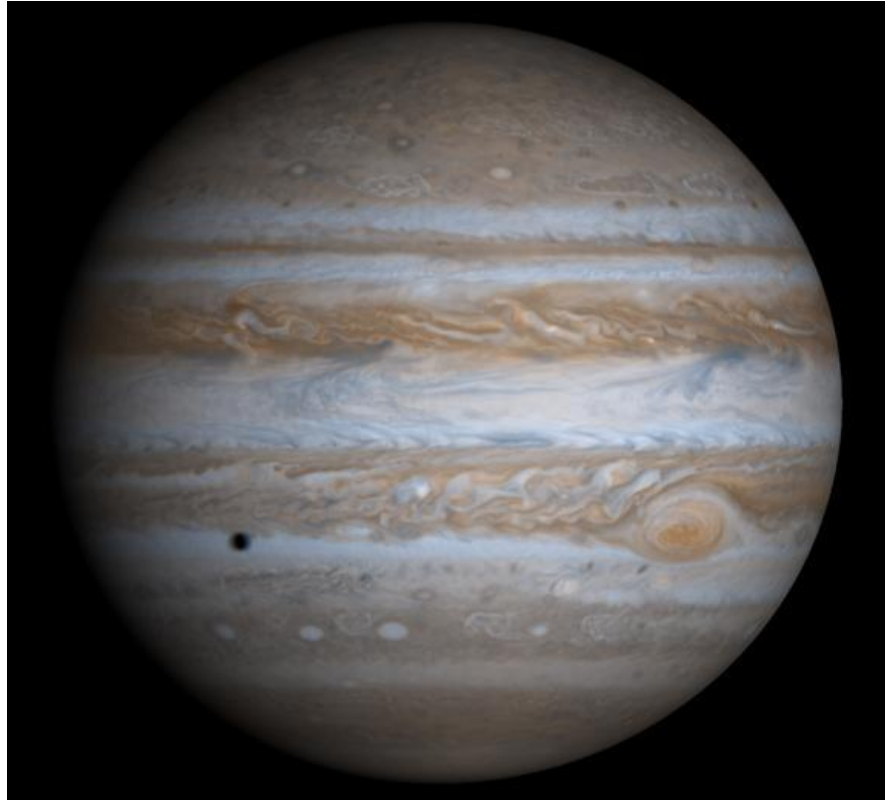
The planet that all known life exists
on

Mars



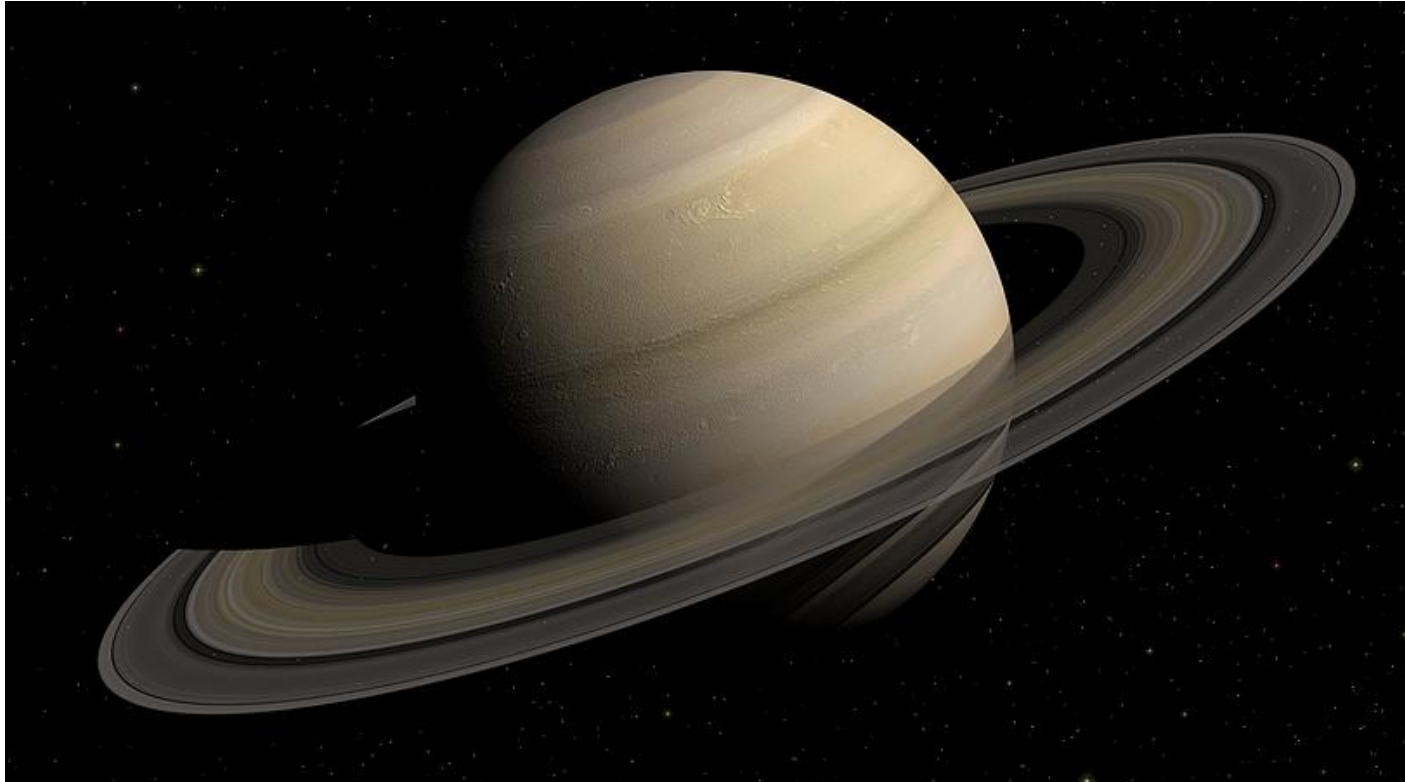
The fourth planet from the Sun

Jupiter



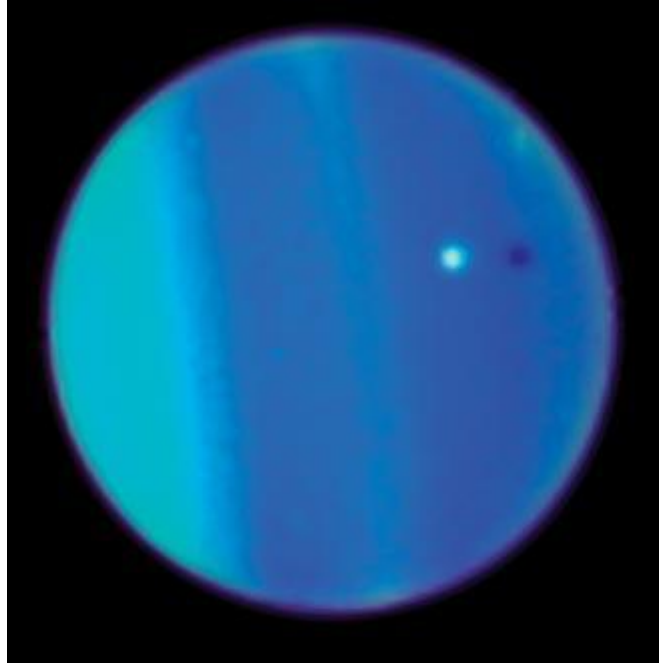
The fifth planet from the Sun

Saturn



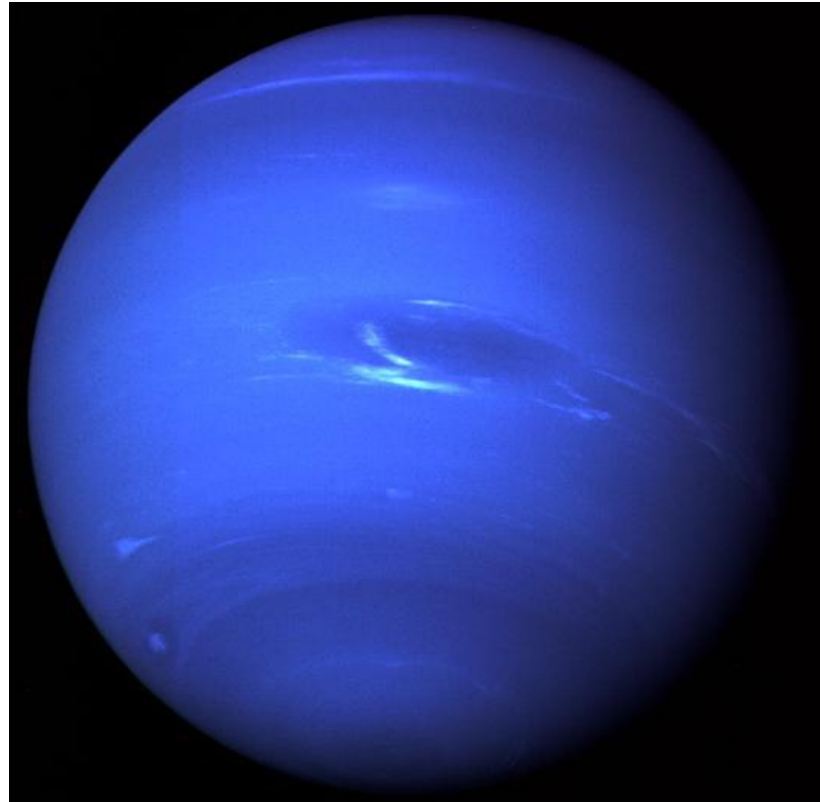
The sixth planet from the Sun

Uranus



The seventh planet from the Sun

Neptune



The eighth planet from the Sun