

Student's Worksheet

The Solar System

1. How many planets are there in our solar system? How many planets can you name? Read the text and check your answers.

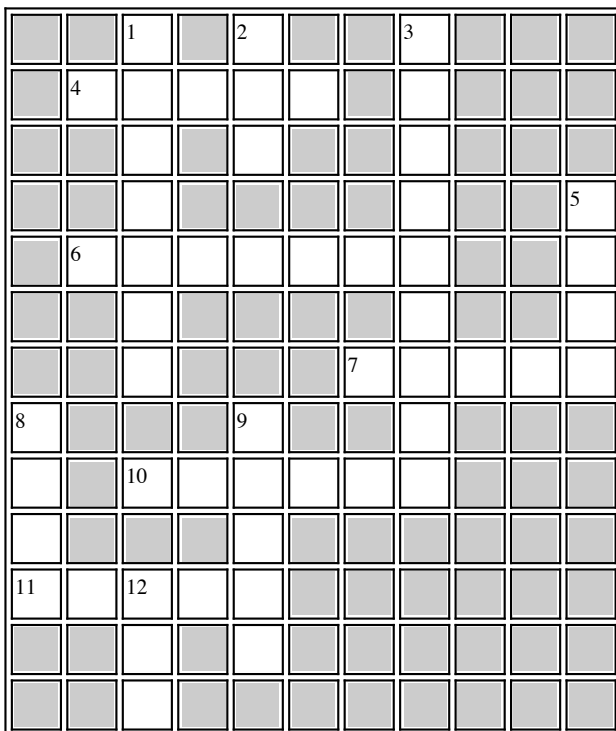
The solar system consists of the Sun and eight planets, which travel around it. In the past people believed that there were nine planets, but now astronomers think that Pluto is not a planet, because it is too small.

The solar system is made of two parts: the inner solar system and the outer solar system. They are separated by a belt of small rocky and metal objects called asteroids.

Mercury, Venus, Earth and Mars are closer to the Sun and they make the inner solar system. They all have rocky surfaces. Mercury is the closest planet to the Sun. Venus has a temperature of 460 degrees Celsius. Earth is the only planet where there is life. Mars is also called *the red planet*.

The outer solar system contains Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune. These planets are made mostly of gas. Jupiter is the largest planet. Saturn is famous for its beautiful rings. Uranus spins differently from other planets. Neptune is blue and takes its name from the Roman God of the Sea.

2. Complete the crossword about our solar system.



Across

- It has a temperature of 460 degrees Celsius.
- The largest planet.
- Saturn is famous for them.
- This planet spins differently.
- The number of planets in our solar system.

Down

- The closest planet to the Sun.
- Planets travel around it.
- Small rocky and metal objects between Mars and Jupiter.
- It is called 'the red planet'.
- The colour of Neptune.
- There is life on this planet.
- The planets in the outer solar system are made of it.