

Solar System Scavenger Hunt Answers

1. What is the name of the only moon in the solar system that has an atmosphere? Titan
2. What are the two main components of the atmospheres of Jupiter and Saturn? hydrogen and helium
3. What are the three types of planets? terrestrial, jovian, and dwarf
4. The Sun accounts for how much of the solar system's mass? 99.8%
5. What was the first planet found using mathematical prediction? Neptune
6. What are the names of the 5 dwarf planets? Ceres, Pluto, Haumea, Makemake, and Eris
7. What is an asteroid? a small rocky body orbiting the Sun
8. Which terrestrial planet has the densest atmosphere? Venus
9. What are the names of the 4 jovian planets? Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune
10. In what year was the term "dwarf planet" first used? 2006
11. What was the name of the first spacecraft to fly past Pluto? New Horizons
12. What are the names of Mars' moons? Phobos and Deimos
13. What is the temperature of Venus? 737 K
14. Which planet's moons are named after Shakespearian characters? Uranus
15. How many Earths would fit across the Sun? 109
16. What is the name of the dwarf planet closest to the Sun? Ceres
17. What did Sir William Herschel want to name the planet Uranus? George
18. What percent of Earth's surface is covered by oceans? about 71%
19. What are the names of Jupiter's 4 largest moons? Ganymede, Callisto, Io, and Europa
20. What percent of the Moon's surface can be viewed from the Earth? 59%
21. Which dwarf planet is farthest from the Sun? Eris
22. What are the names of the 4 terrestrial planets? Mercury, Venus, Earth, and Mars
23. What is a comet? a small, icy object made of ice, dust, and small pieces of rock, that orbits the sun
24. How many Earths would fit in Jupiter's Great Red Spot? 3
25. During what event is the Sun's corona visible? during a solar eclipse
26. What is perihelion? the location in an object's orbit when it is closest to the Sun

27. Earth's core is composed mostly of what element? iron
28. In what year did humans last walk on the Moon? 1972
29. What is the 4th goal of Mars exploration? prepare for human exploration of Mars
30. Which planet has the fastest winds? Neptune
31. How old is the Sun? about 4.6 billion years old
32. What is the largest terrestrial planet? Earth
33. How long would it take a flyby mission to reach Eris? 24.66 years
34. Which planet has the largest ring system? Saturn
35. Dwarf planets Haumea and Makemake were named after goddesses from what culture? Hawaiian
36. What is a volatile? a substance that evaporates easily at normal temperatures
37. What percent of their lifetime do stars spend fusing hydrogen into helium? 90%
38. What is aphelion? the location in an object's orbit when it is farthest from the Sun
39. What is the name of Pluto's largest moon? Charon
40. What did the 1989 Voyager 2 flyby discover in the southern hemisphere of Neptune? the Great Dark Spot
41. What kind of wave pattern was found around the north polar vortex of Saturn? hexagonal
42. Which of Jupiter's moons might have an ice-covered liquid ocean? Europa
43. What is the principle determinant of the evolution and fate of a star? a star's total mass
44. What did the Kepler Space Telescope team report? discovery of the first Earth-sized planets around another star
45. The Sun is currently what type of star? G-type main sequence star
46. What is the asthenosphere? the upper layer of Earth's mantle
47. How long is a Mars day? 1.03 Earth days
48. The planets Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune formed beyond what line? the frost line
49. What is the visible surface of the Sun? the photosphere
50. What are the light colored regions of the Moon called? terrae or highlands