

Test Your Research Skills

Out of this World! 2

How much do you know about the solar system that we live in?

Fill in the gaps below:

1. _____ is the second planet from the sun.
2. _____ is the smallest planet in the solar system.
3. _____ was discovered in 1781 by William Herschel.
4. _____ is red in colour, while _____ and _____ are both blue.
5. The average surface temperature of _____ is 45°F.
6. _____ gets its name from the king of all the Roman gods.
7. _____ is the third planet from the sun.
8. _____'s rings are made up of ice and rocks.
9. Ariel, Oberon and Titania are all moons of _____. They are named after characters in Shakespeare's play _____.
10. _____ is named after the Roman god of the harvest.
11. _____ is the seventh planet from the sun.
12. _____ is named after the Roman god of war.
13. _____ is named after the messenger of the Roman gods, perhaps because it orbits the sun so quickly – in just 88 days.
14. Triton and Nereid are moons which orbit _____.
15. _____ was named after the ruler of the underworld in Roman mythology.

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Answers:

1. **Venus** is the second planet from the sun.
2. **Pluto** is the smallest planet in the solar system.
3. **Uranus** was discovered in 1781 by William Herschel.
4. **Mars** is red in colour, while **Neptune** and **earth** are both blue.
5. The average surface temperature of **earth** is 45°F.
6. **Jupiter** gets its name from the king of all the Roman gods.
7. **Earth** is the third planet from the sun.
8. **Saturn's** rings are made up of ice and rocks.
9. Ariel, Oberon and Titania are all moons of **Uranus**. They are named after characters in Shakespeare's play **A Midsummer Night's Dream**.
10. **Saturn** is named after the Roman god of the harvest.
11. **Uranus** is the seventh planet from the sun.
12. **Mars** is named after the Roman god of war.
13. **Mercury** is named after the messenger of the Roman gods, perhaps because it orbits the sun so quickly – in just 88 days.
14. Triton and Nereid are moons which orbit **Neptune**.
15. **Pluto** was named after the ruler of the underworld in Roman mythology.

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