

**The Solar System

(An Easy & Fun Guide to Our Cosmic Neighborhood!)

1. What is the Solar System?

- The Solar System is made up of the **Sun** and all the objects that orbit around it.
- Includes **planets, moons, asteroids, comets, and meteoroids**.
- Formed **4.6 billion years ago** from a giant cloud of gas and dust.

 **Fun Fact:** The Sun makes up **99.8%** of the Solar System's mass!

2. The Sun – The Star of Our Solar System

- A **huge ball of hot, glowing gases** (mostly hydrogen & helium).
- Provides **light, heat, and energy** to all planets.
- **Temperature:** About **5,500°C** on the surface!

3. The 8 Planets of the Solar System

(Order from the Sun: My Very Educated Mother Just Served Us Noodles)

Planet	Type	Fun Fact
Mercury	Rocky	Fastest planet (88-day year)
Venus	Rocky	Hottest planet (thick CO ₂ atmosphere)
Earth	Rocky	Only planet with life! 
Mars	Rocky	Called the "Red Planet" (iron oxide)
Jupiter	Gas Giant	Largest planet (Great Red Spot storm)
Saturn	Gas Giant	Beautiful rings (made of ice & rock)
Uranus	Ice Giant	Rotates sideways! 
Neptune	Ice Giant	Windiest planet (2,100 km/h winds!)

*(Bonus: **Pluto** is now a **dwarf planet**!)*

4. Other Objects in the Solar System

- **Moons** – Natural satellites (Earth has 1, Jupiter has 95+!).
- **Asteroids** – Rocky objects (mostly in the **Asteroid Belt**).
- **Comets** – "Dirty snowballs" with glowing tails (e.g., Halley's Comet).
- **Meteoroids** – Small rocks that burn up as "shooting stars."

 **Did You Know?** The biggest asteroid, **Ceres**, is also a dwarf planet!

5. Why is Earth Special?

- ✓ Has **liquid water** (oceans, rivers).
- ✓ Has a **protective atmosphere** (oxygen to breathe).
- ✓ Perfect distance from the Sun (**not too hot or cold**).

6. How to Remember the Planets?

Mnemonic: "My Very Educated Mother Just Served Us Noodles!"*