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**Exploring the Solar System**

Our solar system is made up of the sun, eight planets, moons, asteroids, and comets. It is a vast and fascinating place that continues to intrigue scientists and explorers.

The inner planets—Mercury, Venus, Earth, and Mars—are rocky and small compared to the outer planets. Jupiter and Saturn are gas giants, while Uranus and Neptune are ice giants. Each planet has unique features, such as Saturn’s rings or Mars’ dusty red surface.

Exploration of the solar system has expanded our knowledge. Spacecraft like Voyager and rovers on Mars have sent back valuable data. These missions reveal the possibility of life beyond Earth and provide insights into how planets form and evolve.

The study of our solar system also helps us understand Earth’s place in the universe. Discovering similarities and differences among planets allows scientists to predict changes on Earth and search for habitable worlds.

In short, the solar system is more than just planets orbiting the sun—it is a laboratory that teaches us about the past, present, and future of the cosmos.