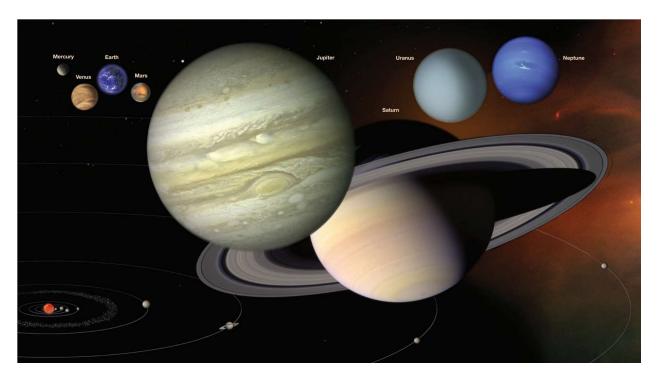
SOLAR SYSTEM



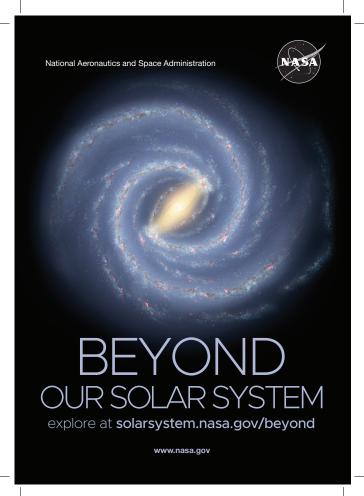


The planets are shown in the upper part of the illustration in their correct order from the Sun and to the same relative size scale. If the distances between the planets were shown at the same scale, the illustration would be miles wide! The correct distance scale between planets is shown in the lower part of the illustration, but the sizes of the planets have been greatly exaggerated (even the Sun would be too small to see at the scale shown). The faint rings of Jupiter, Uranus, and Neptune are not shown. Dwarf planets Pluto, Eris, Haumea, and Makemake do not appear in the illustration. The dwarf planet Ceres is not shown separately; it resides in the asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter (Source NASA)

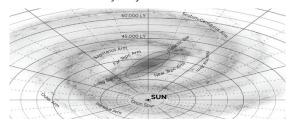
Introduction: Humans have gazed at the heavens and tried to understand the cosmos for thousands of years. Ancient civilizations placed great emphasis on careful astronomical observations. Early Greek astronomers were among the first to leave a written record of their attempts to explain the cosmos. For them, the universe was Earth, the Sun, the Moon, the stars, and five glowing points of light that moved among the stars. The Greeks named the five points of light — called planetes, or wanderers — after their gods. The Romans later translated the names into Latin — Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, and Saturn — and these are the names astronomers use today

Most of the information, activities and pictures are from NASA. I have just organized them in a unit study fashion.





On the front: An artist's concept illustrating the spiral structure of the Milky Way.

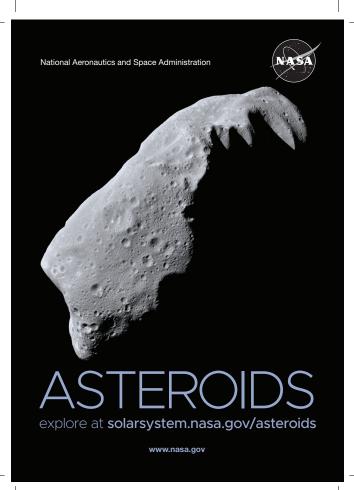


The Milky Way is a spiral galaxy about 100,000 light-years across. Our Sun lies far from its center.

Beyond Our Solar System

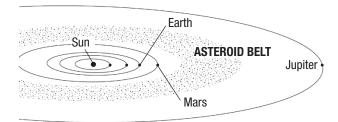
Our Sun is one of over 100 billion stars in the Milky Way, and our galaxy is just one of countless billions in the universe, each having millions — or billions — of stars of their own.





On the front:

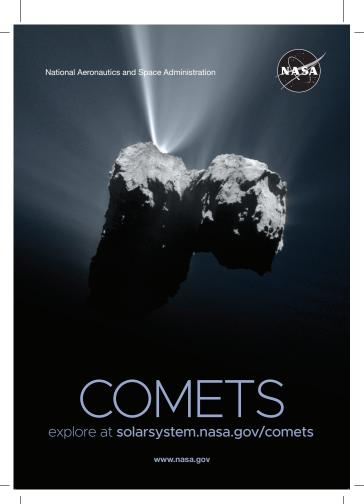
Asteroid 243 Ida from NASA's Galileo spacecraft.



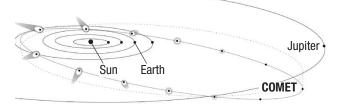
Most asteroids are found in the main asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter. There are also many asteroids with orbits that pass through the space near Earth.

Asteroids are giant hunks of rock and metal that orbit the Sun. Like comets, they are remnants from the formation of our solar system more than 4 billion years ago.





On the front: Comet 67P/ Churyumov-Gerasimenko based on two images by ESA's Rosetta mission.

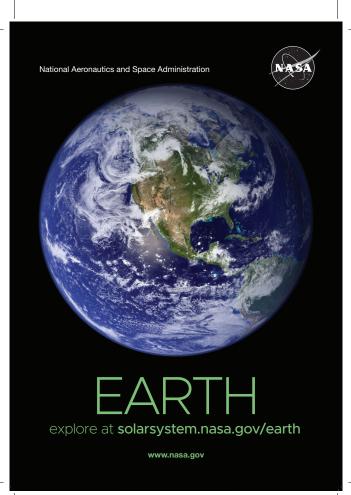


This example of a comet's orbit (for Comet 67P) shows how its activity increases as it nears the Sun.

Comets are icy balls of dust and frozen gases that orbit the Sun. When a comet's orbit brings it close to the Sun, it heats up and spews dust and gases, creating a giant, fuzzy head, called a coma, and a long tail.



explore at solarsystem.nasa.gov/comets



On the front: A view of Earth made using data collected by NASA's Terra satellite.



Earth is one of the four inner, rocky planets of our solar system. It is close enough to the Sun that, with some help from our atmosphere, the planet is warm enough to have liquid water on its surface.

Earth — our home planet — is the third planet from the Sun, and the only place we know of so far that's inhabited by living things. It is the only world in our solar system with liquid water on the surface.

Learth

Earth

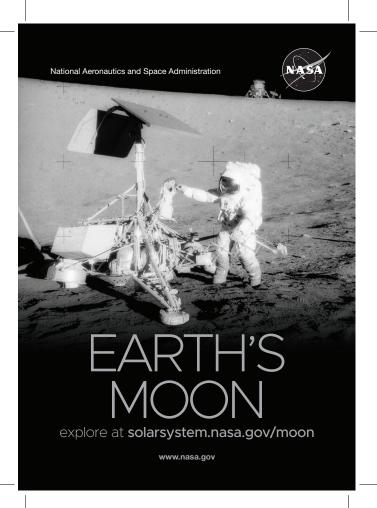
Earth

Earth



Earth is 0.09x (or 9%) the size of Jupiter and 0.009x (or ~1%) the size of the Sun

explore at solarsystem.nasa.gov/earth



On the front: Photo from the Apollo 12 mission, showing an astronaut with the Surveyor 3 spacecraft.

Earth •

EARTH'S MOON

The Moon is farther away than people often think, at a distance of 239,000 miles (385,000 kilometers).

Earth's Moon was likely formed after a Mars-sized body collided with Earth several billion years ago. Earth's only natural satellite is simply called "the Moon" because people didn't know other moons existed until Galileo Galilei discovered four moons

Earth's Moon

Earth's Moon

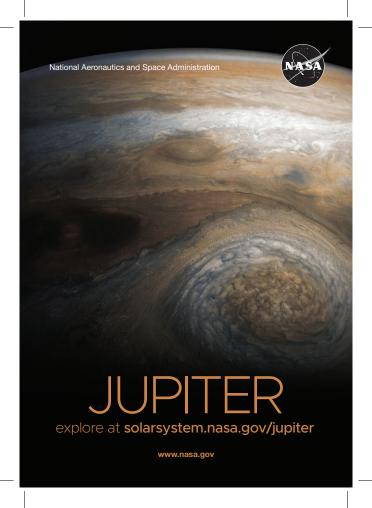
Tobiting Jupiter in 1610.

NASA EXPLORES

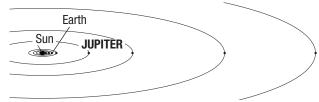
Earth's Moon is 0.27x (or 27%) the size of Earth

EARTH'S MOON

explore at solarsystem.nasa.gov/moon



On the front: Image from NASA's Juno spacecraft showing a Jovian cloudscape. Image processing by Gerald Eichstädt and Seán Doran.



Jupiter orbits the Sun at a distance five times farther than Earth does. It's one of four giant planets in the outer solar system.

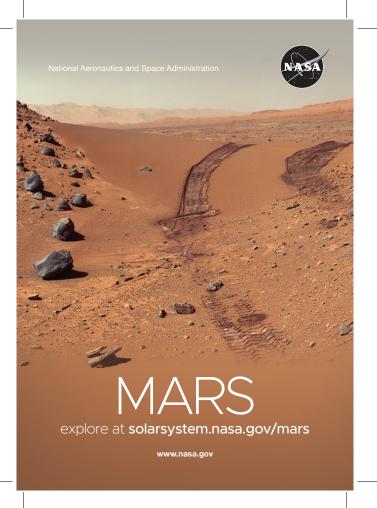
Jupiter is the largest planet in the solar system – more than twice as massive as all the other planets combined. Despite its huge size, the planet is made almost entirely of the lightest elements, hydrogen and helium.

NASA EXPLORES
JUPITER

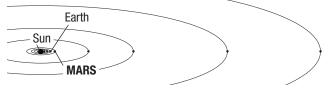
Jupiter is 11.1x larger than Earth

Jupiter

explore at solarsystem.nasa.gov/jupiter



On the front: A view from NASA's Curiosity Mars rover showing the rover's tracks on the Martian surface.



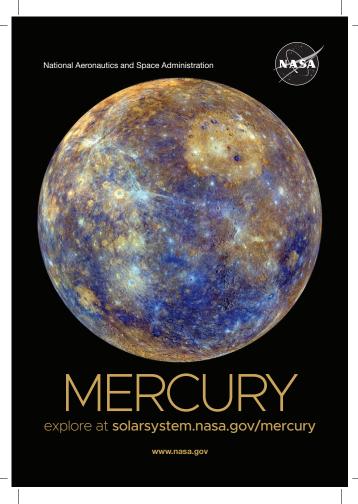
Mars orbits a bit farther away from the Sun than Earth does — on average its distance is about 1.5 times Earth's distance from the Sun.

Mars is a cold desert world with a thin atmosphere. NASA missions have found lots of evidence that Mars was much wetter and warmer, with a thicker atmosphere, billions of years ago.

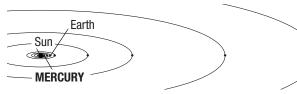
NASA EXPLORES
MARS

Mars is 0.53x (or 53%) the size of Earth

explore at solarsystem.nasa.gov/mars



On the front: An enhanced-color map of Mercury's surface from NASA's MESSENGER spacecraft.



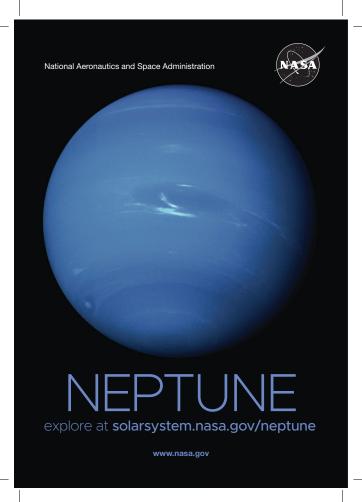
Although Mercury is extremely close to our Sun, there are other solar systems with multiple planets orbiting even closer to their stars.

Mercury is the smallest of our solar system's major planets (only slightly larger than Earth's Moon), and the closest to the Sun. Mercury is also the fastest planet, zipping around the Sun every 88 Earth days.

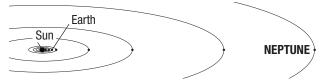


Mercury is 0.38x (or 38%) the size of Earth

explore at solarsystem.nasa.gov/mercury



On the front: A view of Neptune from NASA's Voyager 2 spacecraft in 1989.



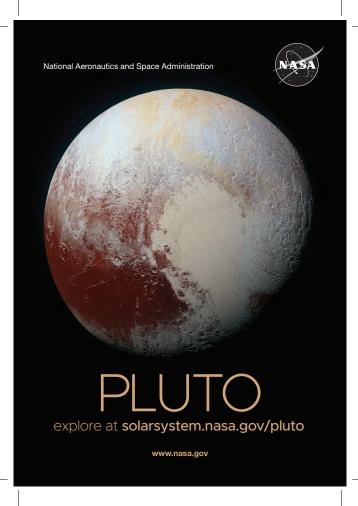
Neptune orbits the Sun about 30 times farther out than Earth. In 2011, Neptune completed its first 165-year orbit since its discovery in 1846.

Neptune is the most distant of the eight major planets orbiting our Sun. It is dark, cold and whipped by supersonic winds. Like Uranus, Neptune gets its bluish color from methane gas in its atmosphere. **Neptune Like Uranus Like Uranus**

NASAEXPLORES NEPTUNE

Neptune is 3.9x larger than Earth

explore at solarsystem.nasa.gov/neptune



On the front: An enhanced-color view of Pluto from NASA's New Horizons spacecraft.



Pluto's orbit is tilted compared to the other planets. Decades after its discovery, astronomers came to understand it's not a lone oddball, but one of many icy worlds that orbit beyond Neptune.

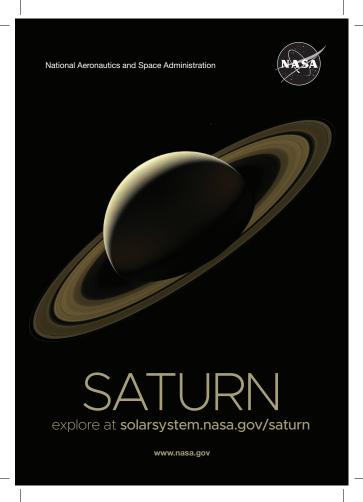
Pluto is a complex world with mountains, valleys, plains and glaciers. Long considered our solar system's ninth major planet, after the discovery of similar worlds in the space beyond Neptune, Pluto was reclassified as a dwarf planet.

NASA EXPLORES
PI UTO

Earth
Pluto is 0.19x (or 19%)

the size of Earth

explore at solarsystem.nasa.gov/pluto



On the front: The final full-planet mosaic of Saturn captured by NASA's Cassini spacecraft in 2017.



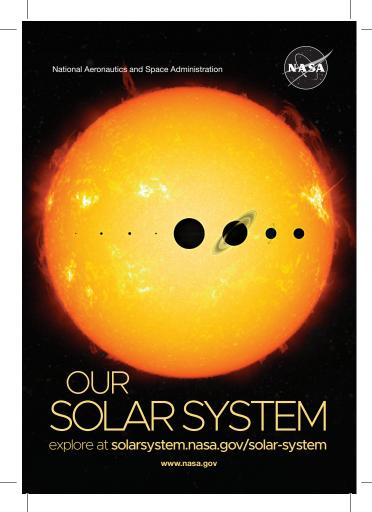
Saturn orbits about twice as far from the Sun as Jupiter, and about 10 times farther out than Earth. It takes about 30 Earth years to make each orbit around the Sun.

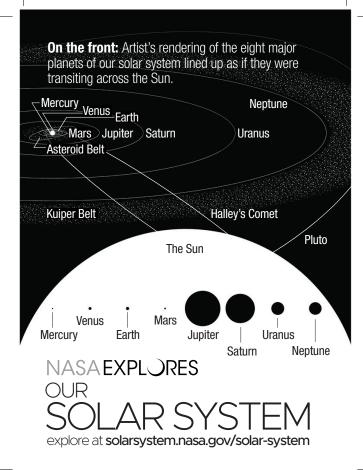
Saturn is the second largest planet in our solar system. Adorned with a dazzling system of icy rings, Saturn is the farthest planet from Earth that was discovered by the unaided human eye, and has been known since ancient times.

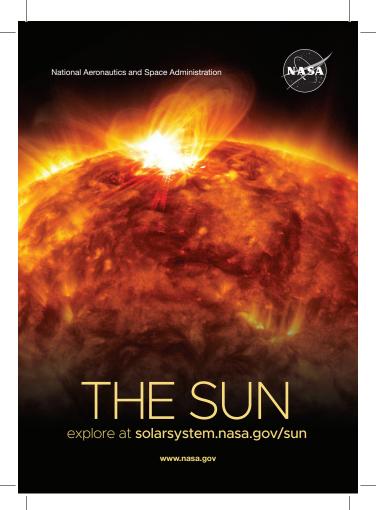
NASA EXPLORES SATURN

Saturn is 9.4x larger than Earth

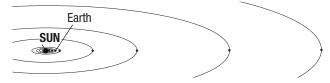
explore at solarsystem.nasa.gov/saturn







On the front: The Sun emits a solar flare, as seen by NASA's Solar Dynamics Observatory in 2015.



The Sun formed from a swirling disk of gas and dust, billions of years ago. The planets and their orbits are remnants of that disk, formed from the leftover material that went into making the Sun.

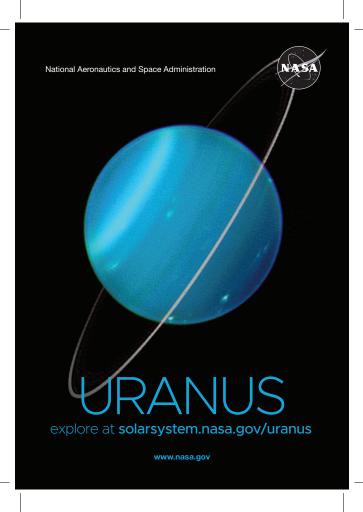
The **Sun** is the star at the heart of our solar system. Its gravity holds the solar system together, keeping everything in its orbit. Almost all (99.8%) of the mass in the solar system is contained within the Sun.

NASAEXPLORES THE SUN

The Sun is 109x larger than Earth

Earth

explore at solarsystem.nasa.gov/sun



On the front: An infrared view of Uranus and its rings from the Keck Telescope (with support from NASA).



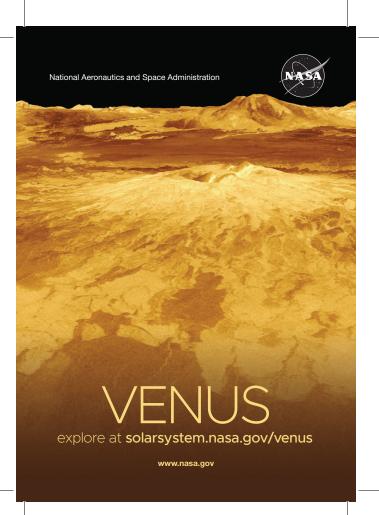
Uranus orbits about twice as far from the Sun as Saturn, and about 20 times farther out than Earth. It takes 84 Earth years to complete a single orbit.

Uranus is a giant planet surrounded by faint rings and more than two dozen small moons. Rotating at a nearly 90-degree angle from the plane of its orbit, its unique tilt makes
Uranus appear to spin on its side.

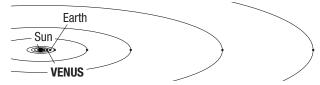
NASAEXPLORES URANUS

Uranus is 4x larger than Earth

explore at solarsystem.nasa.gov/uranus



On the front: A computer-generated, 3D view of Venus, using radar data from NASA's Magellan mission.



Venus orbits closer to the Sun than Earth, which would tend to make it warmer there anyway, but the planet's dense carbon dioxide atmosphere is the main factor in creating its extreme heat.

Venus is our closest planetary neighbor. Its thick atmosphere traps heat in a runaway greenhouse effect, making it the hottest planet in our solar system. Glimpses below the clouds reveal volcanoes and deformed mountains.



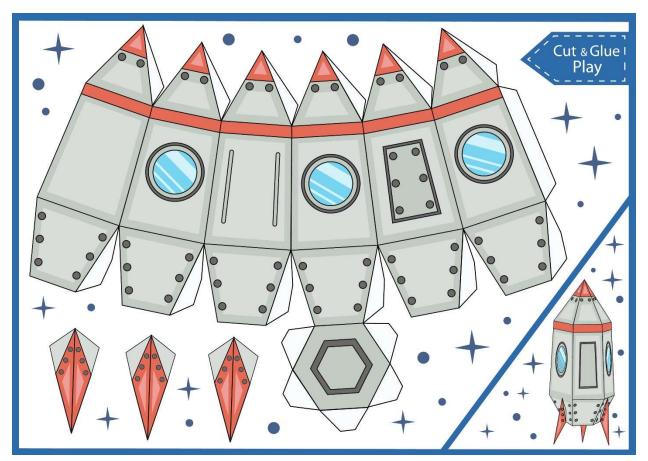


explore at solarsystem.nasa.gov/venus

Activity 1: Cut out the Sun and all the planets. On the floor arrange them in order.



Activity 2: Cut and Glue. Make a 3D rocketship



Activity 3: Make an Earth mask



Pretend to be...





(See instructions for assembly on the next page)



Tell your friends a few fun facts about yourself:

- You are a rocky, terrestrial planet
- Water covers 70% of your surface
- You have an atmosphere that is made mostly of nitrogen and oxygen

Page 1 of 2



Instructions

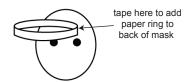
What you'll need:

- -Planet mask activity (pages 1 and 2)
- -Scissors
- -Tape

Safety Note: Adult scissors (i.e. scissors with a sharpened edge) should not be used by children under the age of 10 without adult supervision.

What to do:

- 1. Use scissors to cut out planet shape (page 1) on the dotted line.
- 2. Use scissors to cut out the mask's eye holes on the dotted lines.
- 3. Cut out 3 strips of paper (page 2) on the dotted lines.
- 4. Tape ends of paper strips together to make one long strip.
- 5. Place center of long paper strip on the back of your head.
- 6. Wrap the long strip around your head until you have a snug fit. The strip should form a ring around your head. Tape the ends of the paper strip so that the ring will stay the right size.
- 7. Take paper ring off of head. Tape it to the back of the planet cutout near the center and top of the planet.



8. Place the paper ring on top of your head and see the world through a planet's eyes!

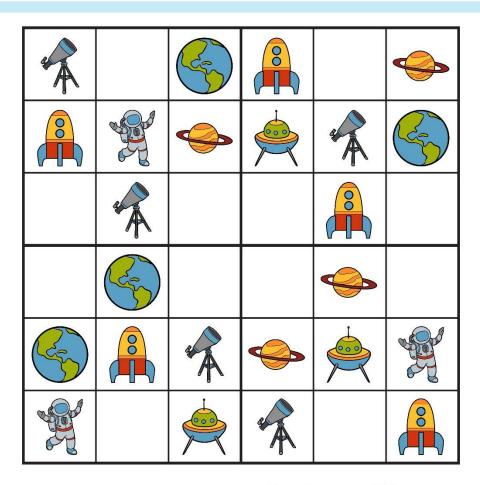


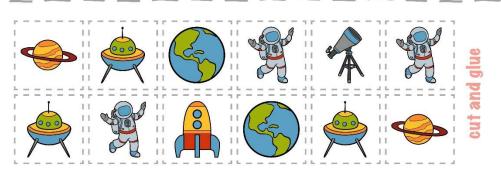
Page 2 of 2

SUϮKU









Activity 5: Complete this NASA solar system puzzle kit



Instructions for Puzzle Assembly

Materials

Solar System Puzzle Patterns* Cellophane tape Colored marker pens or pencils Scissors Razor blade craft knife Butter knife Cutting surface

Metal edge ruler

White glue (optional)

* If possible, copies of the puzzle patterns should be printed on 60 to 100 pound weight white paper or could be glued on poster board. Otherwise, have the patterns duplicated at a commercial copier business on heavy paper stock.

Instructions

- 1. Carefully cut out each cube pattern.
- 2. Using the razor blade knife and a cutting surface beneath, cut the center of the small slots on each pattern. Matching tabs will be inserted into these slots.
- 3. With the metal edge ruler for a guide, use the butter knife to score the white dashed lines on each pattern. Be sure not to press down so hard that the paper is cut. The score lines will make it easy to fold the patterns precisely. Also score the tabs and flaps.
- 4. Pre-fold each pattern piece on the score lines to make sure the folds are square.
- 5. Each pattern page forms a single cube. Join the corresponding tabs and slots (A to A, B to B, etc.) of the puzzle pieces to begin forming cubes. Use tape on the inside of the cube joint to hold these pieces together firmly.
- 6. Join the edges of the cubes together by inserting tabs into the corresponding slots cut into the flaps. Work your way around the cube until all sides are joined. You may wish to use the point of the razor blade knife to assist you in getting the last tabs in place. (Assembly gets easier with practice!) After assembling each cube, you can make them stronger by pulling the tabs slightly from their slots and placing a small drop of glue on the tabs. Push the tabs back in and set the cube aside to drv.

When all cubes are assembled, put the puzzle together. Starting with one side of the puzzle at a time, begin coloring the images of the objects pictured. Use the coloring instructions as a guide or have students find images of the planets and Sun in astronomy books and try to match the colors in the puzzle. You can also color the captions.

Alternate Construction Techniques

A more rugged puzzle can be constructed by gluing the squares to blocks of wood or other materials. Reduce or expand the patterns on a copy machine to fit the blocks. Be sure to place the squares in the proper positions so that properly oriented puzzle faces will be created.

Activities and Questions

- 1. Assemble the puzzle cubes so that all sides match. The exterior faces of the puzzle picture the Sun and five planets. The other objects are visible when the inside faces are opened.
- Based on the information contained in the chart on page 8, discuss the different sizes of the objects pictured in the puzzle. Because of vast differences between the Sun and the planets, no consistent scale has been used for the images. Have students draw a circle on the chalkboard one meter in diameter. Then have the students draw other circles to represent the planets to scale. Use the chart on page 8.
- 3. Discuss the distances between the planets. Make a scale model of the distances of the planets using the distance between Earth and the Sun as a reference. Let that distance equal one meter.
- 4. Why is it difficult to create a scale model of the solar system with both distance and diameters to the same scale?
- 5. Why are only the rings of Saturn shown on the puzzle and not the rings of Jupiter, Uranus, and
- 6. Why is only half of Mercury pictured?
- 7. Have other nations sent spacecraft to study the planets? Which ones?
- 8. What spacecraft made the picture of Pluto?
- 9. Why is Pluto shown with its single moon Charon?
- 10. If you were the first explorer to travel to the other planets, what would you want to learn about them?



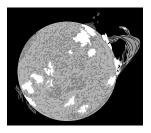
Color Guide

Sun:

Color the entire disk of the Sun yellow. Add orange and red over the mottled areas of the Sun's surface. Leave the white areas yellow. Color the prominences shooting out from the surface red.



Color the entire planet light gray.



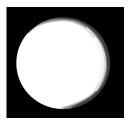
Saturn:

Color the entire planet and its rings tan or light orange.



Uranus:

Color the entire planet blue green.



Venus:

Color the entire planet orange. Darken the shaded areas with tan or light brown.



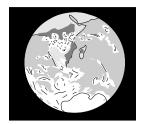
Neptune:

With the exception of some white clouds near the Great Dark Spot, color the entire planet light blue. Make the spot and the shaded bands darker blue.



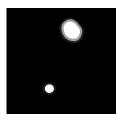
Earth:

Color the oceans blue. Leave the clouds and the ice of Antarctica white. Color Africa and Madagascar tan with a green tint. Make the darker shaded areas slightly more brown.



Pluto and Charon:

Color the fuzzy outer edges light blue. Leave the centers white.



Mars:

Color the entire planet orange.



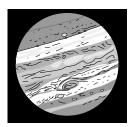
Comet:

Leave white.



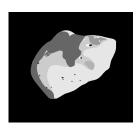
Jupiter:

Color the light areas yellow. Make the Great Red Spot and the shaded band near it reddish. Color all shaded bands orange with a slight red tint.

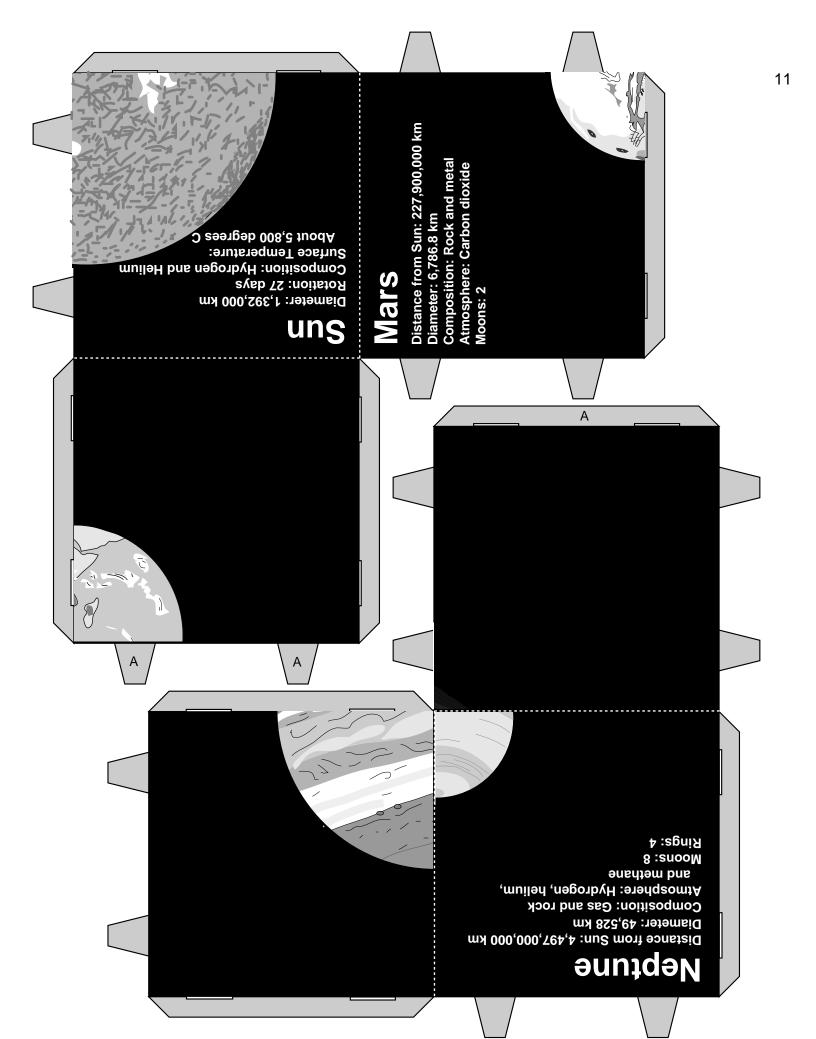


Asteroid:

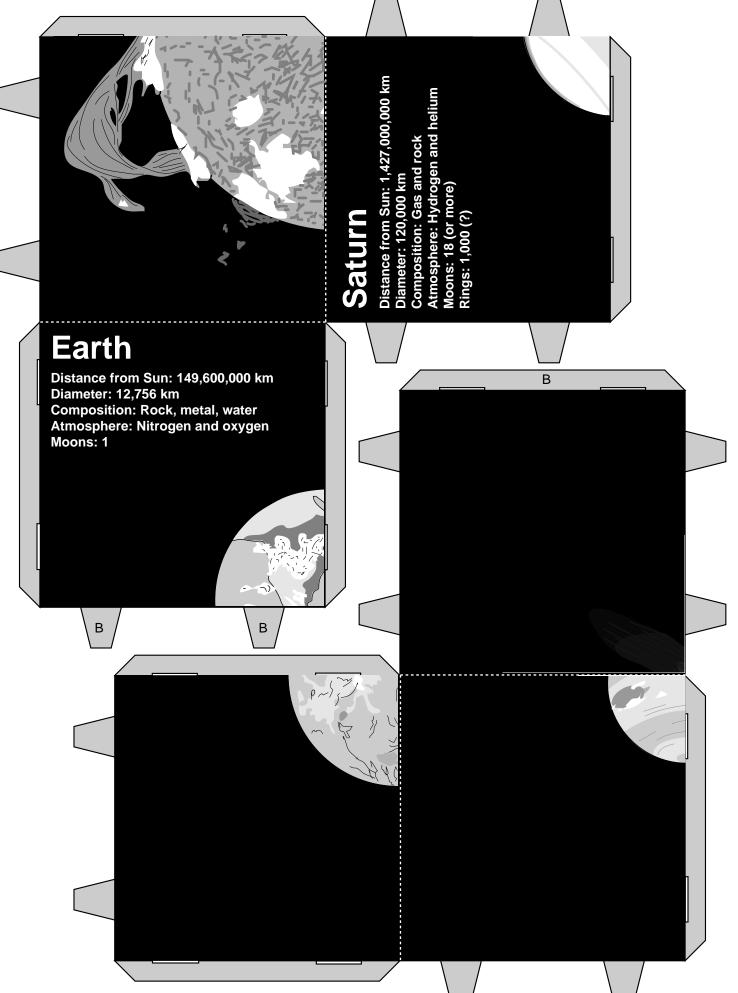
Color the entire asteroid light gray.













С

Uranus

Distance from Sun: 2,871,000,000 km

Diameter: 51,800 km

Composition: Gas and rock

Atmosphere: Hydrogen, helium, and

methane Moons: 15 Rings: 11?

С

С

Distance from Sun: 108,200,000 km Diameter: 12,100 km Composition: Rock and metal Atmosphere: Carbon dioxide Moons: None

Snuə





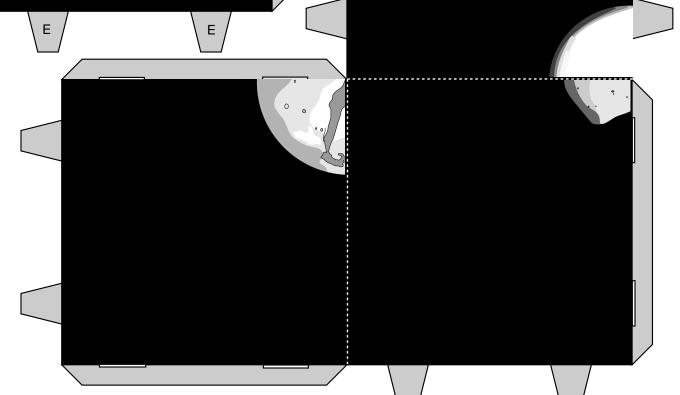


Pluto and Charon

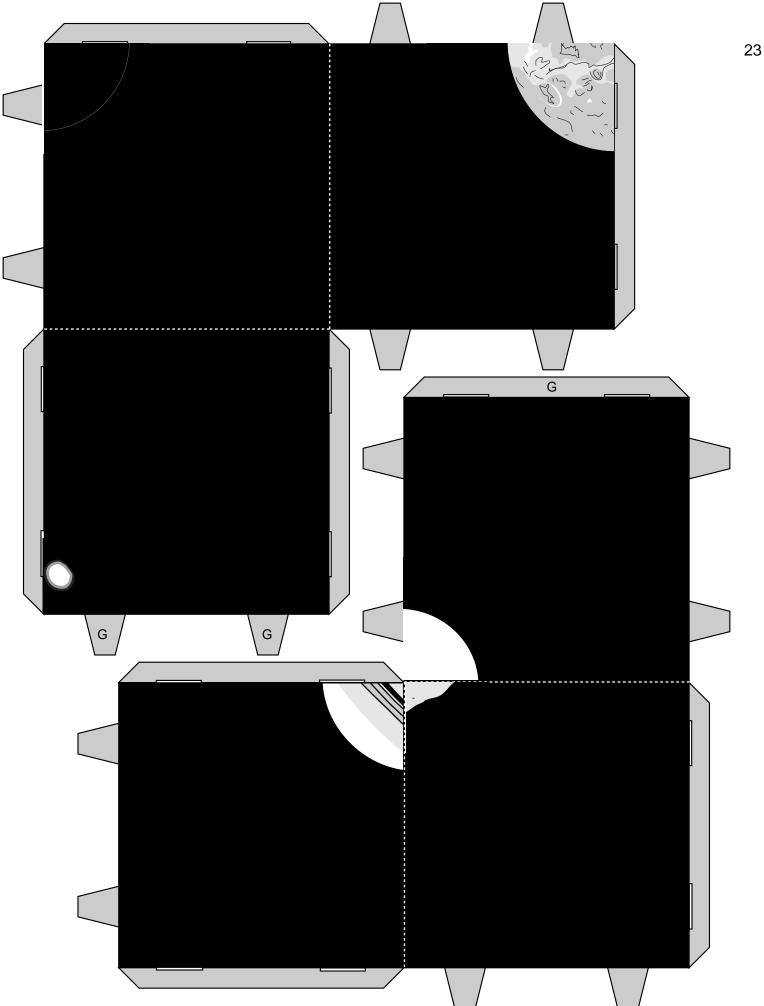
Distance from Sun: 5,913,000,000 km Diameter: ~ 2,330 km

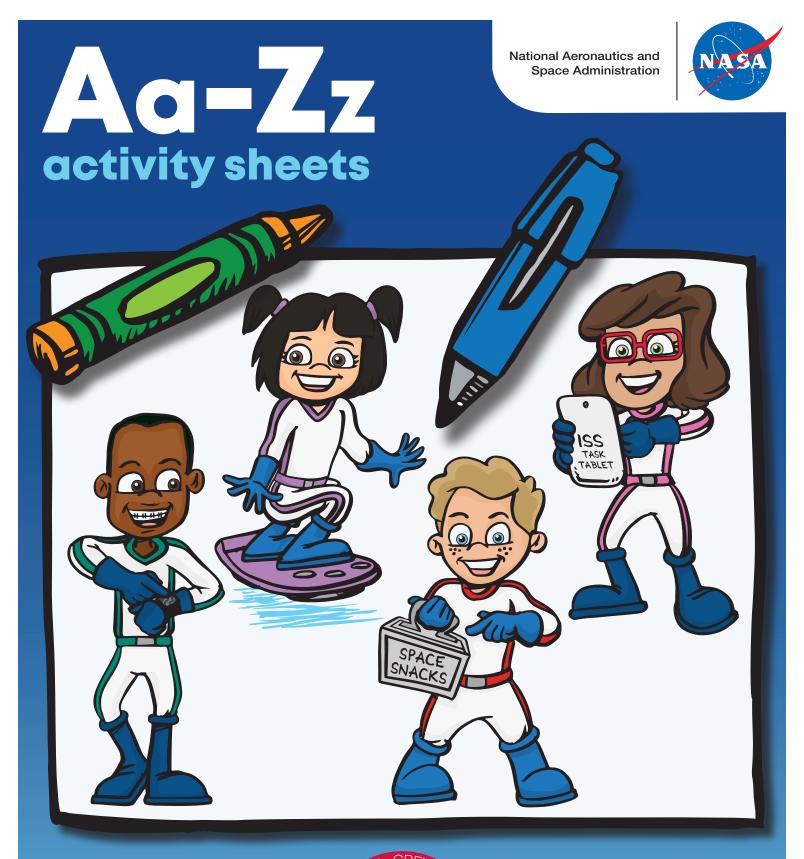
Diameter: ~ 2,330 km Composition: Ice and rock Atmosphere: Methane

Moons: 1



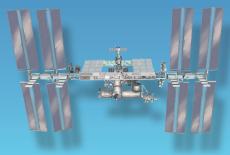
Е





CREW





National Aeronautics and Space Administration



Aa

for astronaut



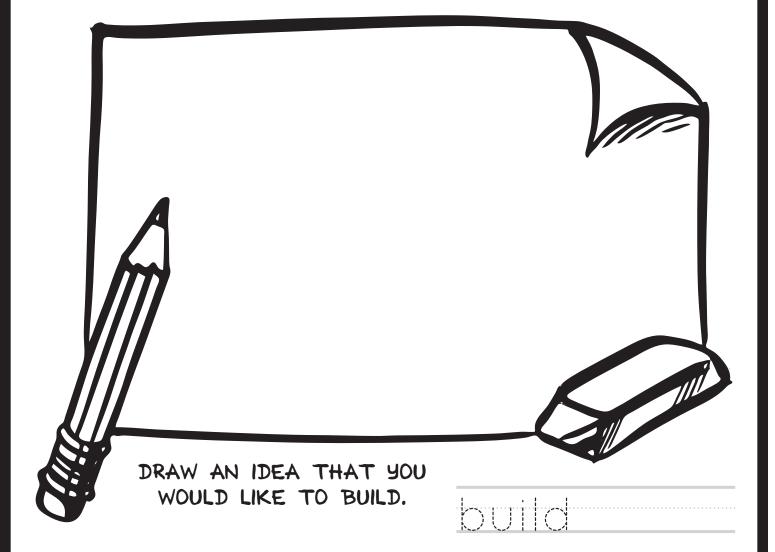
CREW

On Earth and in space, an **astronaut** needs air, food, and water to survive.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration



for build





CREW

What type of rocket would you **build** to help NASA bring people to space?





3 = blue

2 = yellow

= red

Instructions:

Add the numbers in the addition problems in the picture above. Then color each part of the picture using the color that matches the sum.

crew

0+1

2+1

COMMERCIAL

Commercial **Crew** Program will launch astronauts to space on American rockets.

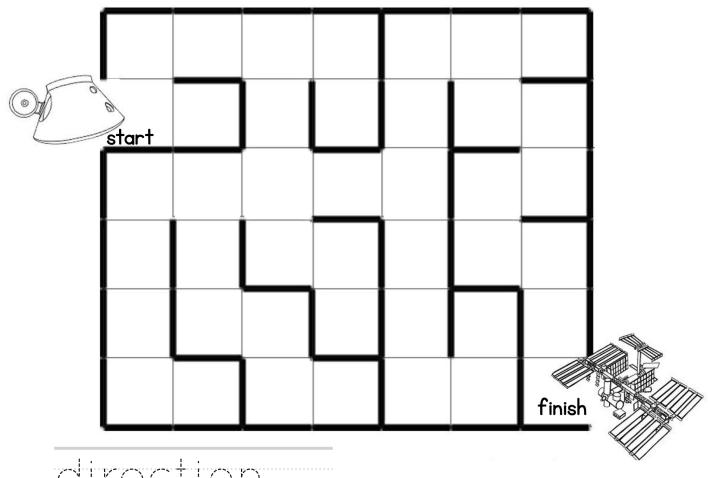
for direction

National Aeronautics and **Space Administration**



Instructions:

As you travel the maze, try writing out the directions that the crew should take to successfully complete the journey. (For example: move up two squares, then right two squares.)



direction



COMMERCIAL

Help provide the right <u>direction</u> through the maze so the crew can arrive safely to the International Space Station.

National Aeronautics and Space Administration



for exercise



exercise



COMMERCIAL

Exercise is important for health and fitness. What types of exercises do you think astronauts do in space?







CLICK ON THE LINK BELOW TO LEARN ABOUT A FUN STRAW ROCKET ACTIVITY:

GRADES K-8:

HTTPS://WWW.NASA.GOV/AUDIENCE/ FOREDUCATORS/TOPNAV/MATERIALS/ LISTBYTYPE/3_2_1_PUFF.HTML

GRADES 4-8:

HTTPS://WWW.JPL.NASA.GOV/EDU/TEACH/ ACTIVITY/STRAW-ROCKET/

force



CREW

A push or pull is a **force** that makes things move. Experiment with **force** by building your own straw rocket.



Gg

for gravity

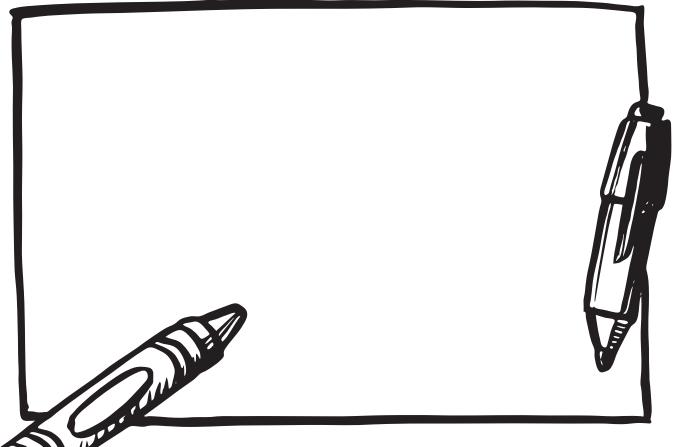


CREW

When you jump in the air, **gravity** is a force that pulls you back down toward Earth.



for habitat



DRAW WHAT YOUR SPACE HABITAT WOULD LOOK LIKE IF YOU LIVED IN SPACE.

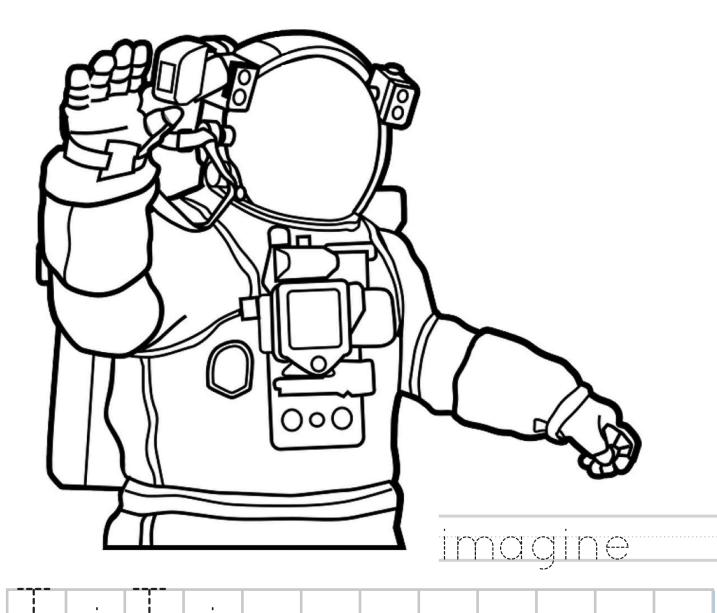
habitat

CREW

A **habitat** is a place to live. What would you bring with you?



for imagine



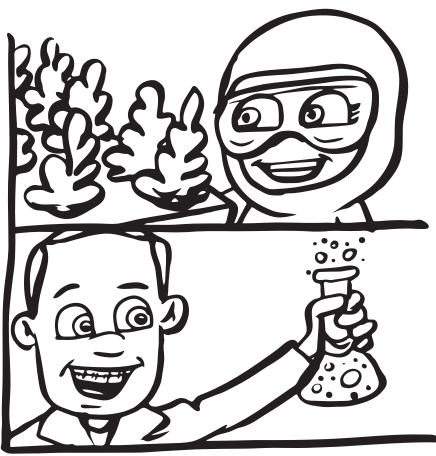
CREW

Imagine yourself as an astronaut. Draw your own face in the helmet above to show how you look in a spacesuit.

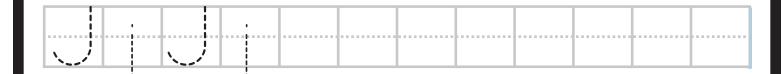


for jobs





iobs

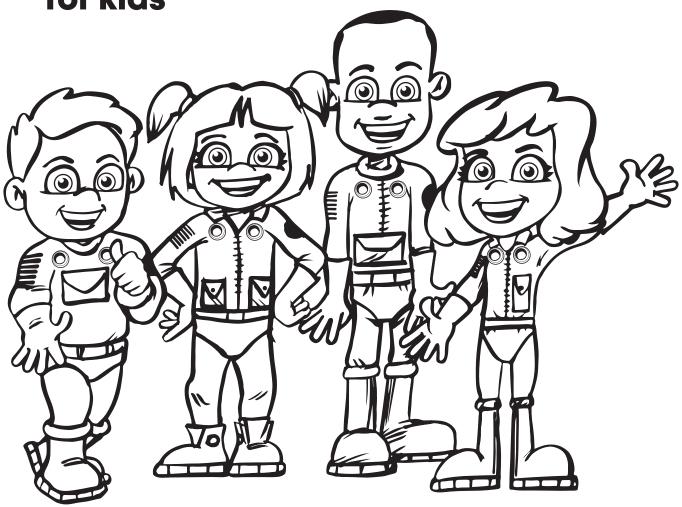


CREW

Scientists, engineers, teachers, lawyers, nurses and even artists can get jobs at NASA.







!	•		
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		~- <i>/</i>	



COMMERCIAL

NASA Kids' Club is a website for **kids** to explore and learn more with NASA.

Join in on the fun, go to <u>nasa.gov/kidsclub</u>.



for Launch



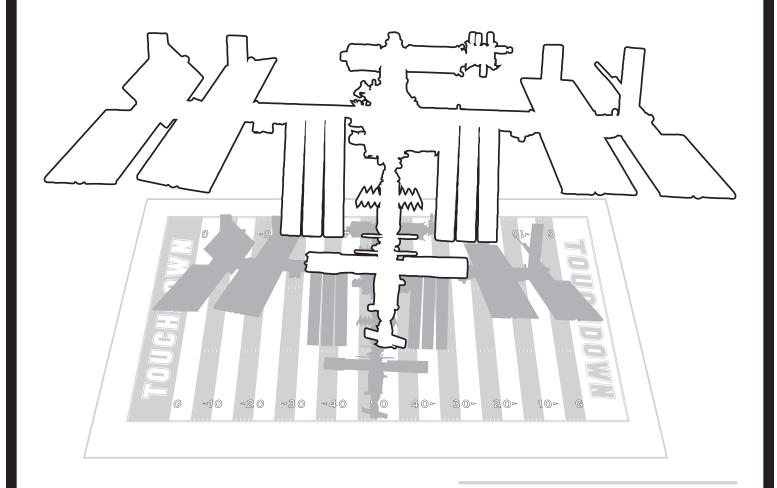
launch

CREW

NASA does a countdown before **launch** to make sure the rocket and crew are ready to liftoff into the sky.



M for measure



measure



COMMERCIAL

The International Space Station has a **measure** of 357 feet long, nearly the full length of an American football field.

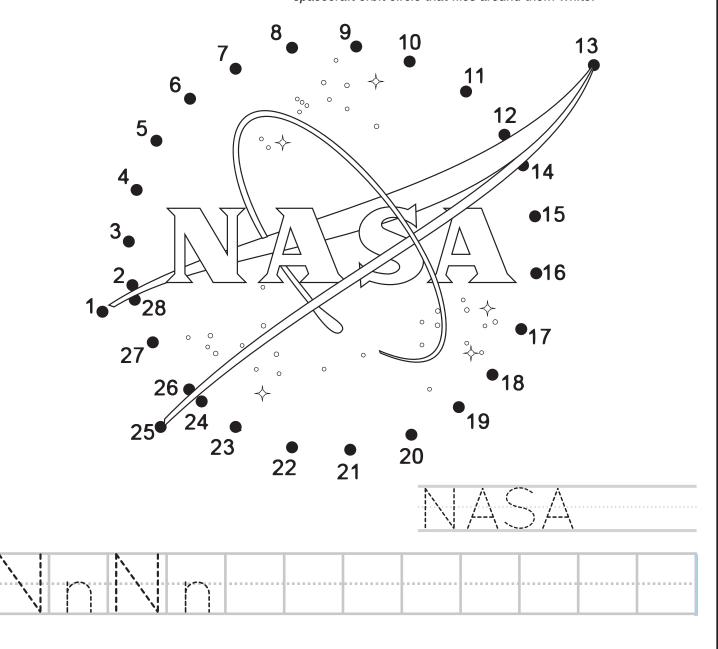




In for NASA

Instructions:

Connect-the-dots to complete the sphere then color it blue. Color the vector (wing shape) red, and color the stars, letters, and the spacecraft orbit circle that flies around them white.



COMMERCIAL

Founded in 1958, the <u>National Aeronautics</u> and <u>Space Administration</u> is commonly known as <u>NASA</u>. The blue logo is sometimes called, "the meatball!"



GO for observe



CREW

NASA uses many tools to **observe** Earth, our solar system and deep space.

Check out "Earth Observatory for Kids" at https://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/blogs/eokids



for parachute



CLICK THE LINK TO TRY YOUR HAND AT A FUN PARACHUTE ACTIVITY:

HTTPS://WWW.JPL.NASA.GOV/EDU/TEACH/ ACTIVITY/PARACHUTE-DESIGN/

parachute



COMMERCIAL

A **parachute** canopy is large and made of fabric that can trap lots of air to slow down the speed of a person or spacecraft.









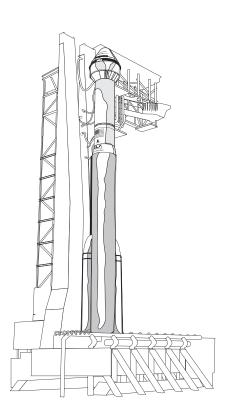
CREW

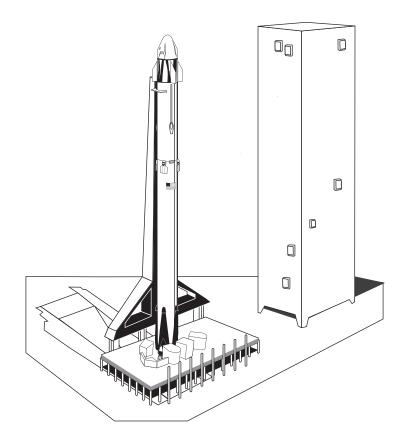
A scientist is a person who asks **questions** and follows steps to find answers.

Name some question words.



Rr for rocket





rocket



COMMERCIAL

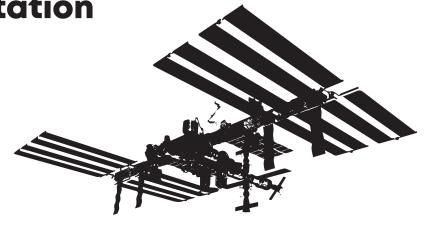
NASA uses different **rocket** types to transport people and supplies to the International Space Station.

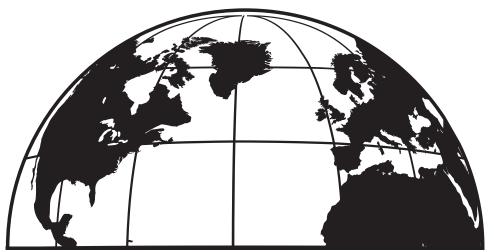
Ss

National Aeronautics and Space Administration



for station





station

spotthestation.nasa.gov

SSS

CREW

The International Space **Station** is an orbiting habitat where astronauts can live and work. Go to <u>spotthestation.nasa.gov</u> and view the **station** in your night sky.



Tt



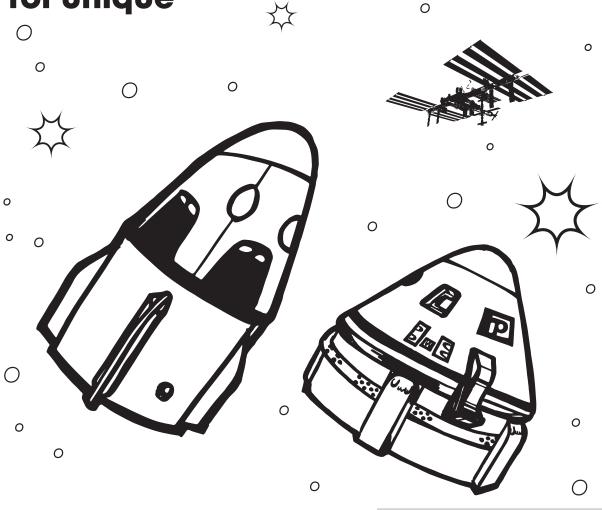
CREW

The NASA <u>team</u> designs and builds spacecraft, plans missions, launches rockets, and recovers space capsules after they land back on Earth.

www.nasa.gov







unique



CREW

Engineers at Boeing and SpaceX imagined and designed <u>unique</u> crew vehicles that can transport astronauts to the International Space Station.



for vibration





Hey kids, try your hand at the Astro-Not-Yets: Sound on a String Activity: www.nasa.gov/education.ccp

vibration



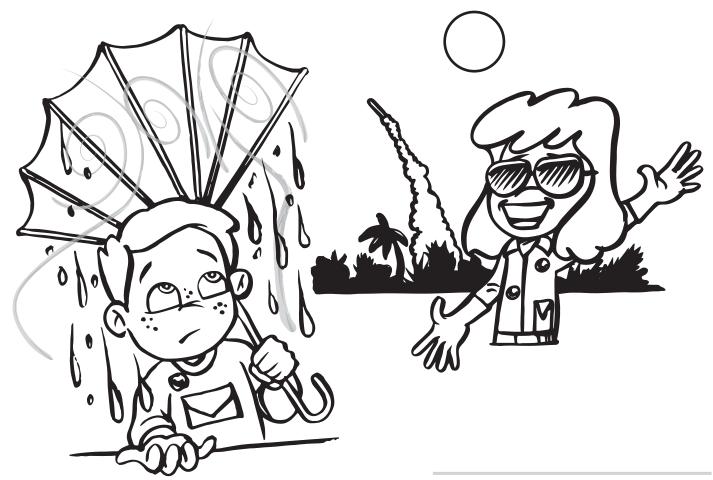


Sound is a <u>vibration</u> that travels through the air and can be heard when it reaches a person's or animal's ear. Ww

National Aeronautics and Space Administration



for weather



weather

CREW

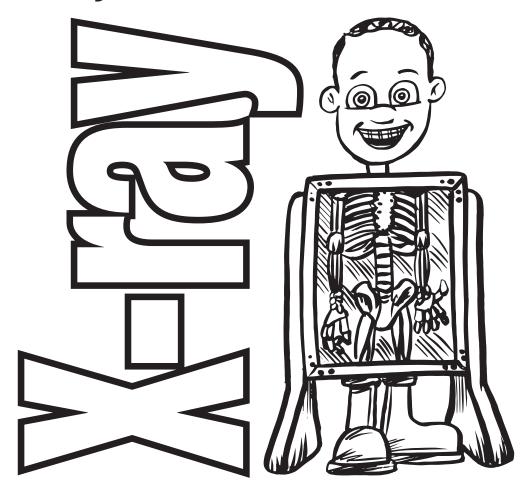
NASA monitors the **weather** before every rocket launch. What's the weather like in your neighborhood? Is it GO for launch?







for X-ray





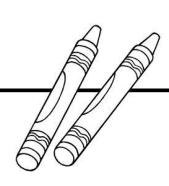


CREW

An **X-ray** can be used to examine bones on Earth and in space. Astronauts must maintain a healthy diet and exercise because bones can weaken in space.



for you







COMMERCIAL

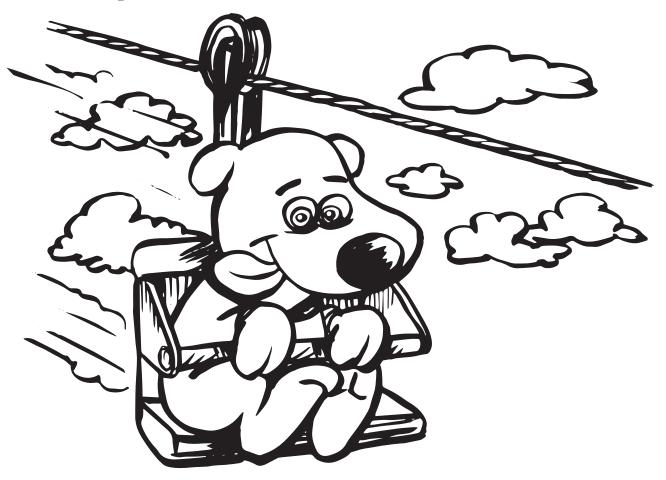
NASA needs **you**! Engineers design and build things to solve problems on Earth and in space. Think of a problem **you** want to solve and draw yourself as an engineer!

Zz

National Aeronautics and Space Administration



for Zipline



Zipline

CREW

In the event of an emergency, astronauts can use an escape system, that works like a **zipline**, to quickly exit the launch pad.

Activity 6: Using paper cut outs (rounds), make different layers of the Earth. Largest round will be the outer most layer and the smallest will be the core.

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