

A Trip Through Our Solar System

An Internet Scavenger Hunt

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

You have been selected by the National Space Travel Institute to take a high-speed voyage through our solar system. Your journey will begin on our star, the Sun. This fantastic round-trip voyage will take you all the way to Pluto and back again! You have been asked to find the answers to some interesting questions along the way. Click on the underlined blue links to find the answers. Record your answers on this sheet.

Good luck...and have a great trip!

Before you start, take a look around the Sun itself. Let's answer some Sun questions.

1. How [old](#) is the Sun thought to be? _____

2. What [galaxy](#) is the Sun a star in? _____

Now, let's start our planet visits.

Traveling on to Mercury, we'd like to know...

3. What is the [surface](#) of Mercury covered with? _____

4. How [hot](#) does it get on the side of Mercury closest to the sun? _____

And how [cold](#) can it be on the side away from the sun? _____

As we arrive at Venus, we wonder...

5. What does Venus do more [slowly](#) than any other planet? _____

6. What is one reason a human might not survive on [Venus](#)? _____

A quick stop on our home planet of Earth...

7. How much of the Earth is covered by [water](#)? _____

8. What is Earth's [atmosphere](#) made of? (Hint: Click on the word More at this site.)

We've arrived on Mars!!

9. Does Mars have [seasons](#)? _____

10. Describe the [surface](#) of Mars? _____

As we fly past Jupiter, we can answer...

11. What is happening at Jupiter's big [Red Spot](#)? _____

12. Which other planets could fit [inside](#) Jupiter? _____

Arriving on Saturn, we learn...

13. What happens to Saturn's [shape](#) because it spins so fast? _____

14. What would happen to Saturn if it were placed in [water](#)? _____

Blasting by Uranus, we ask ourselves....

15. When viewed from Earth, how does Uranus appear to [rotate](#)?

On Neptune, we find...

16. What [weather](#) might we find on Neptune? _____

At last, we've made it to Pluto.

17. Do all astronomers think Pluto is a [planet](#)? _____

Now, we promised that this would be a round-trip voyage. But, guess what? You get to choose which planet you would like to return to! Pick your favorite planet, and tell why you'd especially like to re-visit it.

18. Which planet would you like to return to? _____

Thanks for taking this trip. Hope you learned some neat things about our Solar System!!