Eight planets

Eight Planets Round the Sun



One Sun. Eight planets.

The Sun is our star. The planets follow paths around it called orbits.



From nearest to farthest from the Sun



1. Mercury



2. Venus



3. Earth



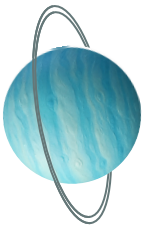
4. Mars



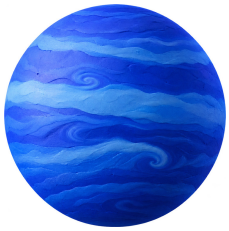
5. Jupiter



6. Saturn



7. Uranus



8. Neptune

Rocky worlds

Mercury, Venus, Earth and Mars

Gas giants

Jupiter and Saturn

Ice giants

Uranus and Neptune

Pluto is a dwarf planet. It is still part of our solar system!

Bea asks: Which planet is our home?

○ Mars ○ Earth ○ Jupiter

Can you find the little clay fish on this page?

Eight planets: your mission

Use a pencil or crayons. You can tell an answer instead of writing it.

Make a planet parade

Say the names and point. If you can write, fill the four gaps. Choose from: Venus, Mars, Saturn, Neptune.



1. **Mercury**



2. _____



3. **Earth**



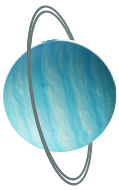
4. _____



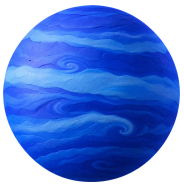
5. **Jupiter**



6. _____



7. **Uranus**



8. _____

Start nearest the Sun. Finish at Neptune.

Read together: Why do planets keep going round?

Gravity pulls the planets towards the Sun. The planets are also moving forwards. Together, that motion and the Sun's pull keep them travelling along their orbits. An orbit is a path, not a rail in space.

Ready for a bigger challenge?

Now cover the names. Say all eight planets in order from the Sun. Which is smallest? Which is biggest?

For grown-ups: Earth. Order: Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune. Home: Earth. Smallest: Mercury. Biggest: Jupiter.