Venus

Venus Is the Hottest World We'll Meet



2

second planet from the Sun



Clouds outside. Trapped heat inside.

The hottest planet

Venus is hotter than Mercury, even though Mercury is closer to the Sun.

A blanket of gas

Its thick atmosphere traps heat. It is gas, not a cloth blanket.

Hidden below

Thick clouds hide the rocky landscape underneath.

Earth-sized neighbour

Venus is nearly as wide as Earth, but much hotter. It has no moons.

ATMOSPHERE A layer of gases around a world.

Bea asks

What really wraps around Venus?

- ○ A woolly blanket
- ○ A thick atmosphere

Can you find the little clay fish on this page?

Facts: NASA | science.nasa.gov/venus/venus-facts/

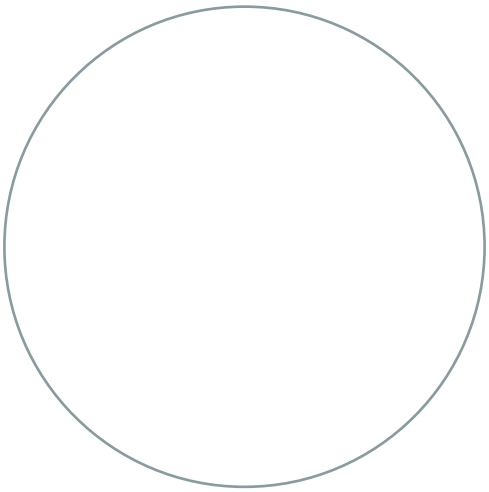
Story artwork; pictures and diagrams are not to scale.

Venus: your mission

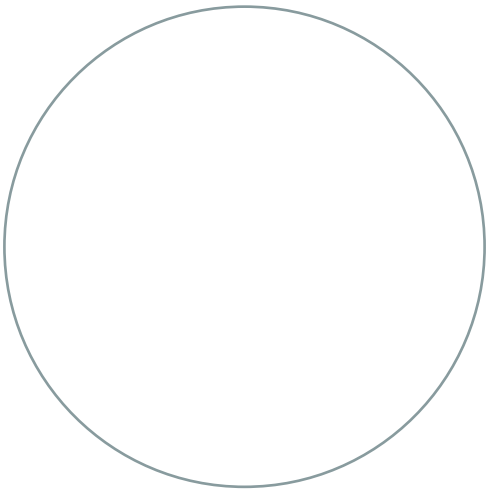
Use a pencil or crayons. You can tell an answer instead of writing it.

Peek beneath the clouds

In the first circle, draw a cloudy Venus. In the second, imagine its rocky ground hidden below.



Outside: cloudy



Under the clouds: rocky

Read together: A blanket made of gas?

The blanket in the song helps us imagine trapped heat. Venus does not wear clothes! Its thick atmosphere holds heat in, even at night. Mercury is closer to the Sun, but Venus is hotter. Explain that surprise to Bea.

Can you explain the surprise?

Circle the hottest planet: Mercury / Venus

Finish the thought: Venus stays so hot because its thick atmosphere

_____.

For grown-ups: A thick atmosphere. Venus. Its atmosphere traps heat. The clouds are not ordinary Earth rain clouds. Cool spaceships in the song are make-believe.

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