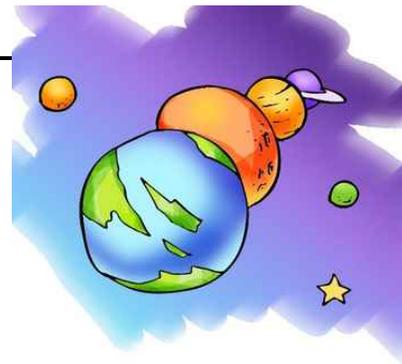


Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# ***Our Solar System Scavenger Hunt Activity***



**Materials:** Question worksheet (pages 2-3)  
16 Solar System Cards (pages 4-8)  
Tape and Scissors

**Preparation:** Print the fact cards on card stock or brightly-colored paper and cut them out.

Make copies of the question sheet (2-sided). Each student will need his/her own copy.

Hide the fact cards around your classroom where kids will be able to find them. You can stick them on your computer keyboard, on the file cabinet, on the sides of student desks, on chairs, on the chalkboard, on the back of your classroom door, or wherever you like.

**Activity:** Students receive a copy of the question worksheet. They have to search the room and find all of the fact cards to answer the questions.

After they have completed the question sheet, you can go over the answers together with the class.

**Management tips:**

You may want to make this a silent activity so students don't share answers with each other.

You can have the kids work alone or with a partner.

Don't be afraid to hide the facts in "tough" places. Kids think it's more fun when they have to search around a little.

Examples of good hiding spots might include:

- the back of the classroom door
- laying flat on the bookshelf
- on the side of your computer monitor

Have a plan for students who finish early. You may want to have an assignment for them to complete when they're done, or you may have them help other students find fact cards.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Side A

# Solar System Scavenger Hunt

**Fact Card #1:** How far away is the sun?

\_\_\_\_\_

**Fact Card #2:** What is the hottest planet?

\_\_\_\_\_

**Fact Card #3:** Which planet has the most volcanoes?

\_\_\_\_\_

**Fact Card #4:** How many stars are in our solar system?

\_\_\_\_\_

**Fact Card #5:** Name all of the planets people have walked on.

\_\_\_\_\_

**Fact Card #6:** What does a Mars rover do?

\_\_\_\_\_

**Fact Card #7:** Name all of Mars' moons.

\_\_\_\_\_

**Fact Card #8:** What is Jupiter's "Great Red Spot"?

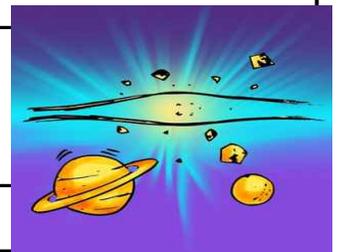
\_\_\_\_\_

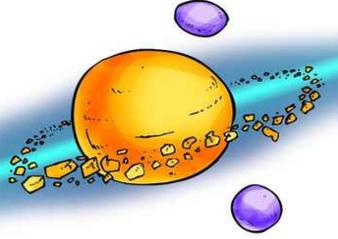
**Fact Card #9:** Name all of the planets that have rings.

\_\_\_\_\_

**Fact Card #10:** Name all four "Gas Giants."

\_\_\_\_\_





# Solar System Scavenger Hunt

**Fact Card #11:** What is the coldest planet in our solar system?

---

**Fact Card #12:** How fast do winds blow on Neptune's wind storms?

---

**Fact Card #13:** Why isn't Pluto considered a planet any more?

---

**Fact Card #14:** Name all five dwarf planets in our solar system.

---

**Fact Card #15:** How long does it take light to travel from the sun to Earth?

---

**Fact Card #16:** Name Pluto's three moons.

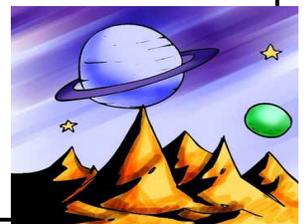
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**Fact Card #17:** What were the names of the first two people to walk on the moon?

---

**Fact Card #18:** When was the last time someone walked on the moon?

---

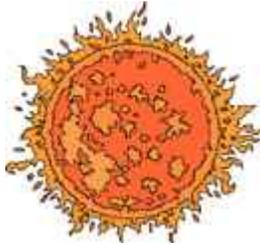


Solar System

## Scavenger Hunt

Fact Card #1

**The sun is 93-million miles away from Earth. This is equal to 146-million kilometers.**



Solar System

## Scavenger Hunt

Fact Card #2

**Mercury is the closest planet to the sun, but it is not the hottest. Venus is the hottest planet because it has many clouds that trap in heat.**



Solar System

## Scavenger Hunt

Fact Card #3



**Venus has more volcanoes than any other planet.**

Solar System

## Scavenger Hunt

Fact Card #4

**There is only one star in our solar system - the sun.**

**Our galaxy has millions of stars.**

Solar System

## Scavenger Hunt

Fact Card #5

**Earth is the only planet people have ever walked on. Astronauts have also walked on the Earth's moon, but that's not a planet.**

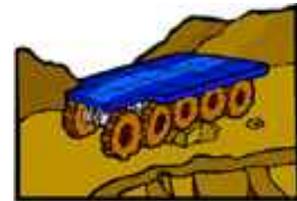


Solar System

## Scavenger Hunt

Fact Card #6

**Scientists have sent robots, called rovers, to explore Mars. The rovers drive around the surface of Mars, take pictures, and send them back to Earth.**



Solar System

## Scavenger Hunt

Fact Card #7



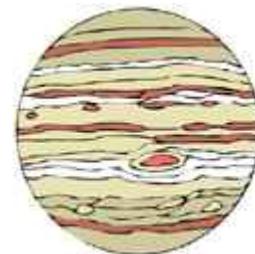
**Mars has two small moons, named Phobos and Deimos.**

Solar System

## Scavenger Hunt

Fact Card #8

**Jupiter, the largest planet, has a "Great Red Spot." The red spot is a huge wind storm.**



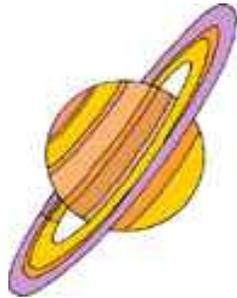
Solar System

## Scavenger Hunt

Fact Card #9

**Saturn is famous for its bright rings, but it isn't the only planet with rings.**

**Jupiter, Uranus, and Neptune also have them.**



Solar System

## Scavenger Hunt

Fact Card #10

**Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune are known as "Gas Giants" because they're made of mostly gas.**

Solar System

## Scavenger Hunt

Fact Card #11



**Uranus is the coldest planet in our solar system.**

Solar System

## Scavenger Hunt

Fact Card #12



**Neptune is the stormiest planet. Its wind storms blow three times as fast as hurricanes on Earth.**

Solar System

## Scavenger Hunt

Fact Card #13

**Pluto used to be considered a planet. Scientists decided it was too small to be a "real planet," so it is now a dwarf planet.**



Solar System

## Scavenger Hunt

Fact Card #14

**There are five known dwarf planets in our solar system. Their names are Pluto, Ceres, Haumea, Makemake, and Eris.**



Solar System

## Scavenger Hunt

Fact Card #15

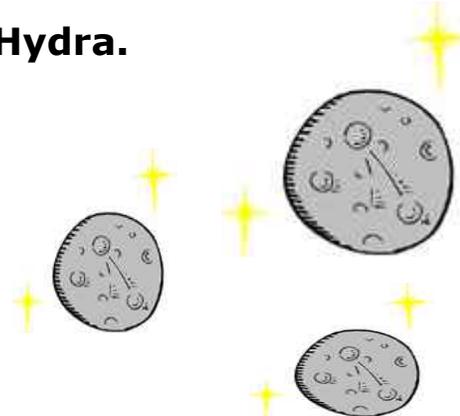
**It takes light eight minutes to travel from the sun to Earth. The sunlight you see outside right now, actually left the sun's surface eight minutes ago.**

Solar System

## Scavenger Hunt

Fact Card #16

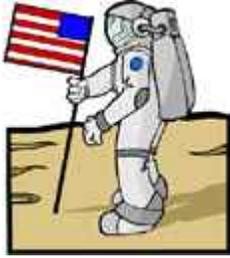
**Pluto has three moons. Their names are Charon, Nix, and Hydra.**



Solar System

## Scavenger Hunt

Fact Card #17



**Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin were the first people to walk on the moon.**

Solar System

## Scavenger Hunt

Fact Card #18

**Twelve astronauts have walked on the moon. The first astronaut walked on the moon in 1969. The last astronaut walked on the moon in 1972.**

## ***Solar System Scavenger Hunt***

Fact Card #1: How far away is the sun?

93-million miles or 146-million kilometers

Fact Card #2: What is the hottest planet?

Venus

Fact Card #3: Which planet has the most volcanoes?

Venus

Fact Card #4: How many stars are in our solar system?

one

Fact Card #5: Name all of the planets people have walked on.

Earth

Fact Card #6: What does a Mars rover do?

Drives around the surface of Mars and takes pictures.

Fact Card #7: Name all of Mars' moons.

Phobos and Deimos

Fact Card #8: What is Jupiter's "Great Red Spot"?

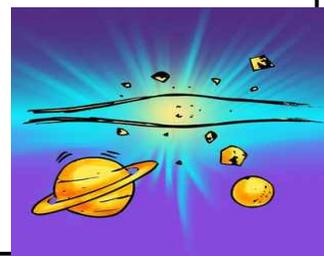
a wind storm

Fact Card #9: Name all of the planets that have rings.

Saturn, Jupiter, Uranus, and Neptune

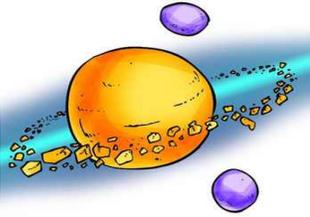
Fact Card #10: Name all four "Gas Giants."

Saturn, Jupiter, Uranus, and Neptune



# **ANSWER KEY**

Side B



## ***Solar System Scavenger Hunt***

**Fact Card #11: What is the coldest planet in our solar system?**

**Uranus**

**Fact Card #12: How fast do winds blow on Neptune's wind storms?**

**three times as fast as Earth's hurricane winds**

**Fact Card #13: Why isn't Pluto considered a planet any more?**

**it's too small**

**Fact Card #14: Name all five dwarf planets in our solar system.**

**Pluto, Ceres, Haumea, Makemake, and Eris**

**Fact Card #15: How long does it take light to travel from the sun to Earth?**

**8 minutes**

**Fact Card #16: Name Pluto's three moons.**

**Charon, Nix, and Hydra**

**Fact Card #17: What were the names of the first two people to walk on the moon?**

**Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin**

**Fact Card #18: When was the last time someone walked on the moon?**

**1972**



Written by Tim Weibel  
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