# Mercury

## Closest planet to the Sun

## Orbits at 29 miles per second

## Temperatures range from 700 degrees to –300 degrees Fahrenheit

# Venus

## Second planet from the Sun

## Temperature is about 900 degrees Fahrenheit

## Spins backwards on its axis

# Earth

## Third planet from the Sun

## Has oceans of water, and an oxygen-rich atmosphere

## Has intelligent life

## The distance from the surface to the center of the Earth is about 2,000 miles

# Mars

## Fourth planet from the Sun

## Smaller and colder than Earth

## Temperatures range from 30 degrees to –220 degrees Fahrenheit

# Jupiter

## Fifth planet from the Sun

## Largest planet in the solar system

## Fast rotation causes the clouds to form bands

## Big red spot in southern hemisphere is a hurricane-like storm

# Saturn

## Sixth planet from the Sun

## Known as the “ringed” planet

## Rings are made of ice and rock

## Winds at the equator reach speeds of 1,100 miles per hour

# Uranus

## Seventh planet from the Sun

## Third largest planet in the solar system

## Named after the father of Saturn in Roman mythology

## Summers and winters on Uranus last 42 years

# Neptune

## Eighth planet from the Sun

## Fourth largest planet in the solar system

## Sometimes further from the Sun than Pluto

# Pluto

## Ninth planet from the Sun

## Smaller than the Earth’s moon

## Smallest planet in the solar system

## Has an elliptical orbit