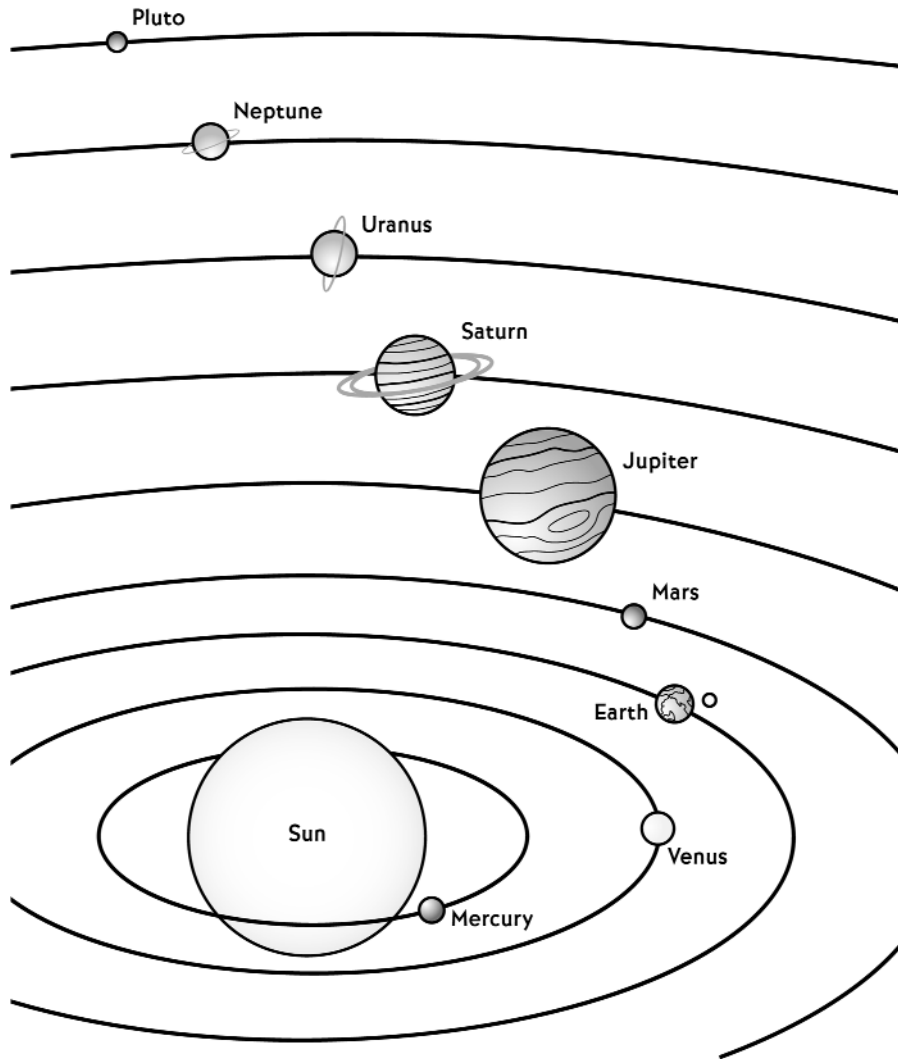


Name _____

Our Solar System



Classification:

solar system

Composition:

all objects (satellites) orbiting the Sun, including the nine major planets and their satellites, asteroids, meteors, and comets

Size:

15-30 trillion kilometers (9.3-18.6 trillion miles) in diameter

Position:

spiral arm of the Milky Way galaxy, 28,000 light years from the center

Orbit speed:

240,000 years around the center of the Milky Way

Planets:

9

Moons:

approximately 69

Other facts:

Our solar system is about 4.6 billion years old. The Sun's gravitational pull holds the entire solar system in orbit around it. Our solar system extends to the edge of the Oort Cloud, a loose cloud beyond the orbit of Pluto that is filled with comets.