Planets: Same and Different



What do you notice in this picture?

Lexile Level: 220-500

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What Is a Planet?

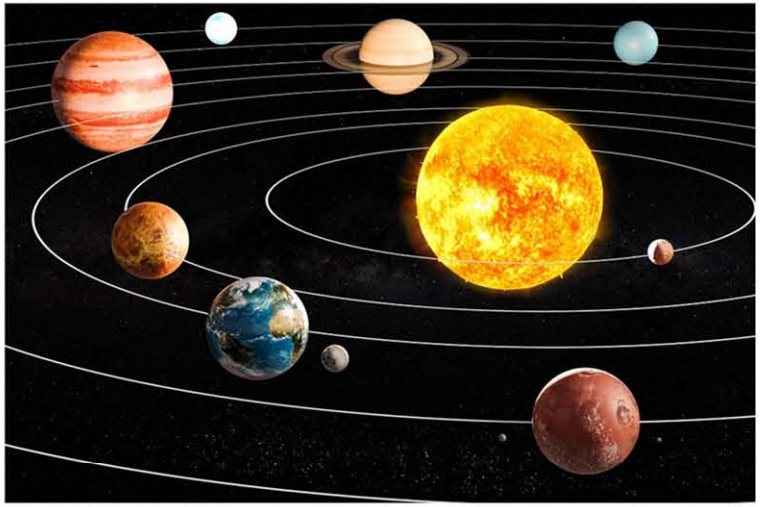
Planets are the same in three ways.

They are big. They are round. They orbit the Sun.

But how are they different?



All planets are big and round.



All planets orbit the Sun.

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Mercury and Venus

Mercury is a planet. It is closest to the Sun.

Venus is a planet. It is the brightest one in the sky.



Mercury can get very hot.



Venus is almost as bright as a moon.

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Earth and Mars

Earth is a planet. It is the only planet with living things.

Mars is a planet. It has two moons.



You are somewhere on this planet!



Mars looks red.

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Jupiter and Saturn

Jupiter is a planet. It is the biggest one.

Saturn is a planet. It has colourful rings.



That spot is bigger than Earth!



These colourful rings are made of ice and dust.

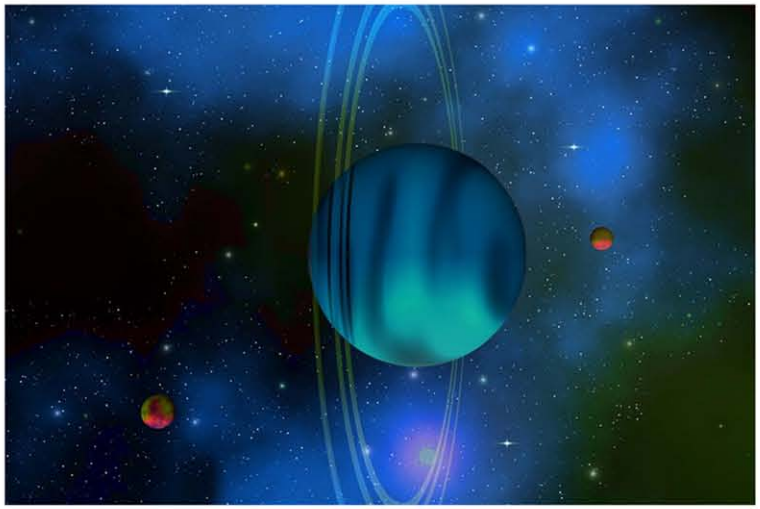
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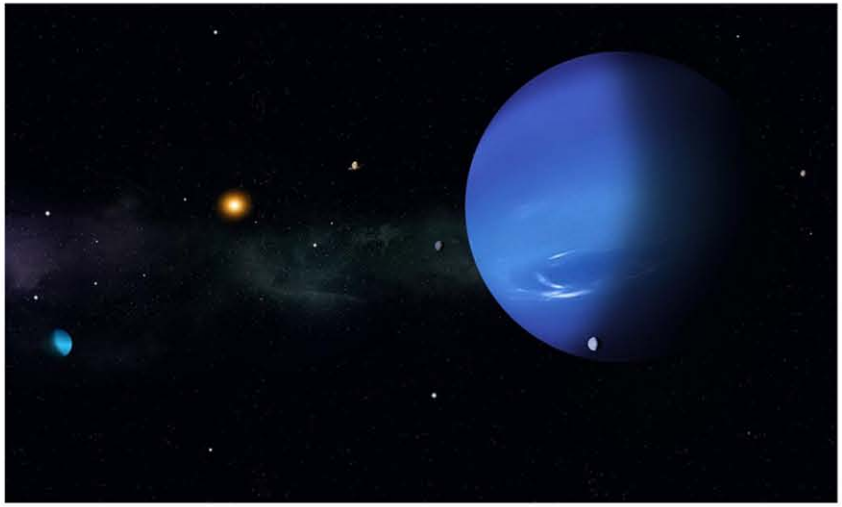
Uranus and Neptune

Uranus is a planet. It spins fast.

Neptune is a planet. It is cold and stormy.



Uranus spins on its side.



Neptune is very far from the Sun.

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Conclusion

Planets are the same in three ways.

They are big. They are round. They orbit the Sun.

They are different in their own ways, too!



These are all the planets orbiting the Sun.

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