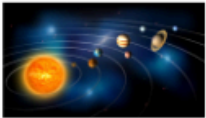


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Crash Course Astronomy #9: Introduction to the Solar System

Name: _____ Date: _____

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1. The Solar System includes the Sun, planets, moons, asteroids, comets, dust, and very thin _____.
2. The Sun makes up more than _____ percent of the mass of the solar system.
3. The ancient Greeks knew the Earth was a sphere, but most believed it was _____.
4. Ptolemy's model of the Universe was based on a _____ system with Earth at the center.
5. Copernicus proposed a _____-centered model of the solar system in 1543.
6. Kepler discovered that planets move in _____ orbits rather than perfect circles.
7. Newton used his laws of physics and the math of _____ to explain gravity.
8. The word "solar" comes from the Latin word "_____," meaning Sun.
9. The term "planet" is hard to define clearly because any rigid _____ creates too many exceptions.
10. Pluto is one of many icy bodies found beyond the orbit of _____.
11. The planets in our solar system orbit the Sun in a relatively flat _____.
12. The region between Mars and Jupiter is filled with rocky debris called the _____ belt.
13. The Kuiper Belt lies beyond Neptune and consists mostly of _____ ice balls.
14. The _____ Cloud is a spherical region of icy objects surrounding the solar system.
15. The solar system formed from a collapsing _____ that flattened into a disk.

Crash Course Astronomy #9: Introduction to the Solar System KEY

1. The Solar System includes the Sun, planets, moons, asteroids, comets, dust, and very thin **gas**.
2. The Sun makes up more than **98** percent of the mass of the solar system.
3. The ancient Greeks knew the Earth was a sphere, but most believed it was **motionless**.
4. Ptolemy's model of the Universe was based on a **geocentric** system with Earth at the center.
5. Copernicus proposed a **Sun**-centered model of the solar system in 1543.
6. Kepler discovered that planets move in **elliptical** orbits rather than perfect circles.
7. Newton used his laws of physics and the math of **calculus** to explain gravity.
8. The word "solar" comes from the Latin word **sol**, meaning Sun.
9. The term "planet" is hard to define clearly because any rigid **definition** creates too many exceptions.
10. Pluto is one of many icy bodies found beyond the orbit of **Neptune**.
11. The planets in our solar system orbit the Sun in a relatively flat **plane**.
12. The region between Mars and Jupiter is filled with rocky debris called the **asteroid** belt.
13. The Kuiper Belt lies beyond Neptune and consists mostly of **rocky** ice balls.
14. The **Oort** Cloud is a spherical region of icy objects surrounding the solar system.
15. The solar system formed from a collapsing **cloud** that flattened into a disk.

15 Questions

Answer Key Included

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