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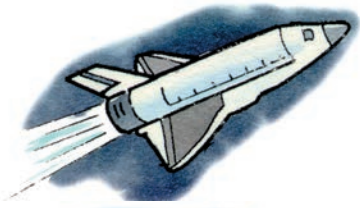
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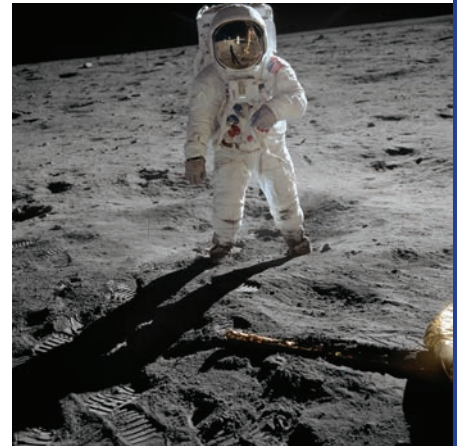


Did You Know?



Neil Armstrong

Neil Armstrong was the first man to step on the Moon. His footprints are still there. His space shuttle was called Apollo-11. A space shuttle was a special spacecraft that was used to carry people into space.



The Solar System

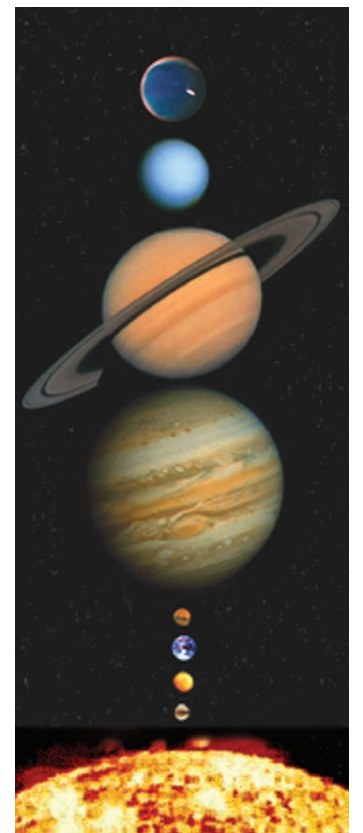
The Sun, the planets and their moons make up a family. This family is called a **solar system**.

The Stars

Stars are far away from our solar system. Stars are actually balls of fire. The Sun is also a star. It is the star that is nearest to Earth. All stars are not alike. Some are big and bright, while others are small and dim.

Activity

Switch on a torch in the sunlight. Observe its light. Is it bright or dull? Now switch on the same torch in a dark room at night. Is its light bright or dull? The light from the torch is dull in the presence of sunlight but not in the dark room.



The planets

The Moon and the stars are there in the sky even during the day. But, just as we cannot see the light of the torch during the day, we cannot see the Moon or the stars in the bright sunlight.

POINTS TO REMEMBER

- There are many big objects like the Sun, the Moon, and the stars in space. They are called heavenly bodies.
- The Sun is a big ball of fire. Its heat and light reaches us as sunlight.
- There are eight planets which move around the Sun in their orbits.
- The Moon is a natural satellite of Earth. It moves around Earth.
- The Sun, planets and their moons make up a family called the Solar System.

EXERCISES

1. Answer the following:

- Name the star that is nearest to Earth.
- Name the planets in order of their increasing distance from the Sun.
- Name Earth's natural satellite. Why can we not see the Moon during the day?
- What is a constellation? Name any two constellations.

2. Give reasons for the following.

- The Sun is much bigger than Earth but it looks small.
- The Moon has no light of its own, yet we receive moonlight.
- The planets do not collide with each other while going round the Sun.

3. Who am I?

- I am a fixed path and planets move on me: _____
- I am the planet nearest to the Sun: _____
- I am a planet with 63 moons: _____
- I am the star closest to Earth: _____
- I am a planet between Venus and Mars: _____
- I am a constellation called the Hunter: _____

CLASS DISCUSSION

- The Sun gives heat and light to all living beings. What would happen if the Sun were not there?
- Why do we not get heat and light from the other stars in the sky?

PROJECT WORK

1. Find out interesting facts about the planets.

- Which is the hottest planet?
- Which is the brightest planet?
- Which planet has rings around it?
- Which is the coldest planet?