

The Solar System

Test yourself

4-5

1 a Link the words to their correct definitions.

Planet	A rocky planet.
Pluto	A gaseous planet.
Moon	Shape of pathway followed by the planets when orbiting the Sun.
Jupiter	A satellite of the Sun that reflects light.
Sun	Closest planet to the Sun.
Ellipse	No longer classified as a planet.
Mercury	Nuclear reaction in its core generates heat and light energy.
Mars	Orbits the Earth once every 28 days.

b Place the following in order of size, starting with the smallest object.

Planet Universe Star Moon Solar System Galaxy

Creative

5-6

2 Complete an alphabet challenge based upon the words used in the topic of Space. A couple of examples have been completed for you, but see if you can think of different words.

Remember, you must find words for all 26 letters of the alphabet, but if in difficulty you may extend the rules (as shown with letter 'D').

A – Asteroid; B – ? ; C – ? ; D – Dark side (of the Moon)



FIGURE 4: Asteroids are minor planets.



FIGURE 5: The Moon is a natural satellite of the Earth.

Digital

7-8

3 Research the planets online.

- Use the information that you find to make a set of fact cards on the planets.
 - Colour code your fact cards into rocky and gaseous planets.
 - Organise the planets into patterns according to information on the distance from the Sun and time taken to orbit the Sun.
 - Use your fact cards to test your classmates' knowledge of the Solar System.
- Bring together all the facts that you have gathered and present them in an imaginative way for a website such as www.sciencemonster.com/planets.html.