## How do the planets in the solar system differ?

Science - Space

Miss Hummel


## Preparation for the lesson:

| Planet | Mnemonic | Picture | Size <br> description | Temperature | other <br> description |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Mercury |  |  |  |  |  |
| Venus |  |  |  |  |  |
| Earth |  |  |  |  |  |
| Mars |  |  |  |  |  |
| Jupiter |  |  |  |  |  |
| Saturn |  |  |  |  |  |
| Uranus |  |  |  |  |  |
| Neptune |  |  |  |  |  |


| Complete this mnemonic |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Mercury M <br> Venus V <br>   <br> Earth E <br>   <br> Mars M <br>   <br> Jupiter J <br>   <br> Saturn S <br> Uranus U <br> Neptune N <br>   <br> N  |  |


| Complete this mnemonic |  |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Mercury M <br> Venus V <br> Earth E <br> Easy  <br> Mars M <br> Jupiter Method <br> Saturn S <br> Just  <br> Uranus U <br> Neptune Up <br>  N <br> Now  |  |

## Thinking Task:

1. How long does it take Mercury to orbit the Sun?

## Thinking Tasks

1. Why does Mars's atmosphere trap a large amount of heat?
2. Why is the surface of Mars red?

Write the names of the object from the solar system being described below:

1.     - the largest object in the solar system that the solar system was named after
2.     - large spheres of rock that orbit around the sun
3.     - large balls of rock that orbit planets
4.     - an example of another rocky object that can be found in the solar system
5.     - leftover material from stars that have exploded in the past

Thinking Task:

1. What is the Big Red Spot?

Thinking Task:

1. What is Saturn famous for?

## Question to answer:

1. Write down one difference between Uranus and Neptune.

## Sort these descriptions into 'Inner rocky planets’ or 'Outer

## gas giants':

- Closer to the Sun
- Further away from the Sun
- Mostly made from gas
- Mostly solid rock
- The colder planets
- The warmer planets
- Often have rings of dust and rock around them

| Inner Rocky Planets | Outer Gas Planets |
| :--- | :--- |
|  |  |

Read the clues and work out which planet is which below:

1) Which planet is the hottest planet?
2) Which is the largest planet? $\qquad$
3) Which planet spins on its side?
4) Which planet is the closest to the Sun?
5) Which planet is red due to iron minerals in its surface? $\qquad$
6) Which planet is the furthest away from the Sun? $\qquad$
7) Which planet is known for its 7 rings that are easy to see? $\qquad$

## Thinking Task:

## Why might it be difficult to study planets in

 detail?

