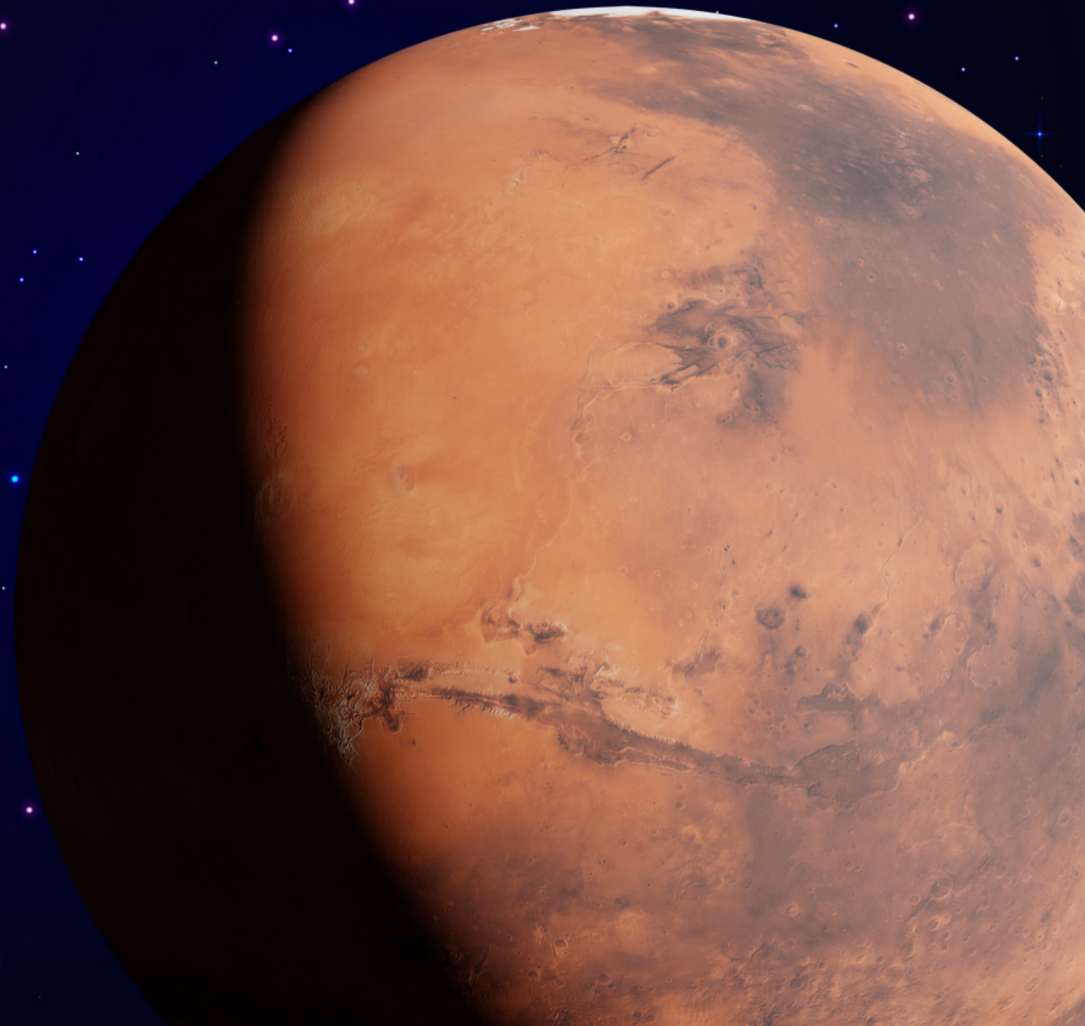


THE SOLAR SYSTEM

AND BEYOND



BY GAVIN MCCORMACK



Welcome to my super cool book all about the solar system! Get ready to blast off on an awesome adventure through space. We'll explore the planets, moons, and other amazing stuff in our cosmic neighborhood.

From the fiery hot Mercury to the icy faraway Pluto, we'll learn about each planet's secrets and what makes them special.



SUN

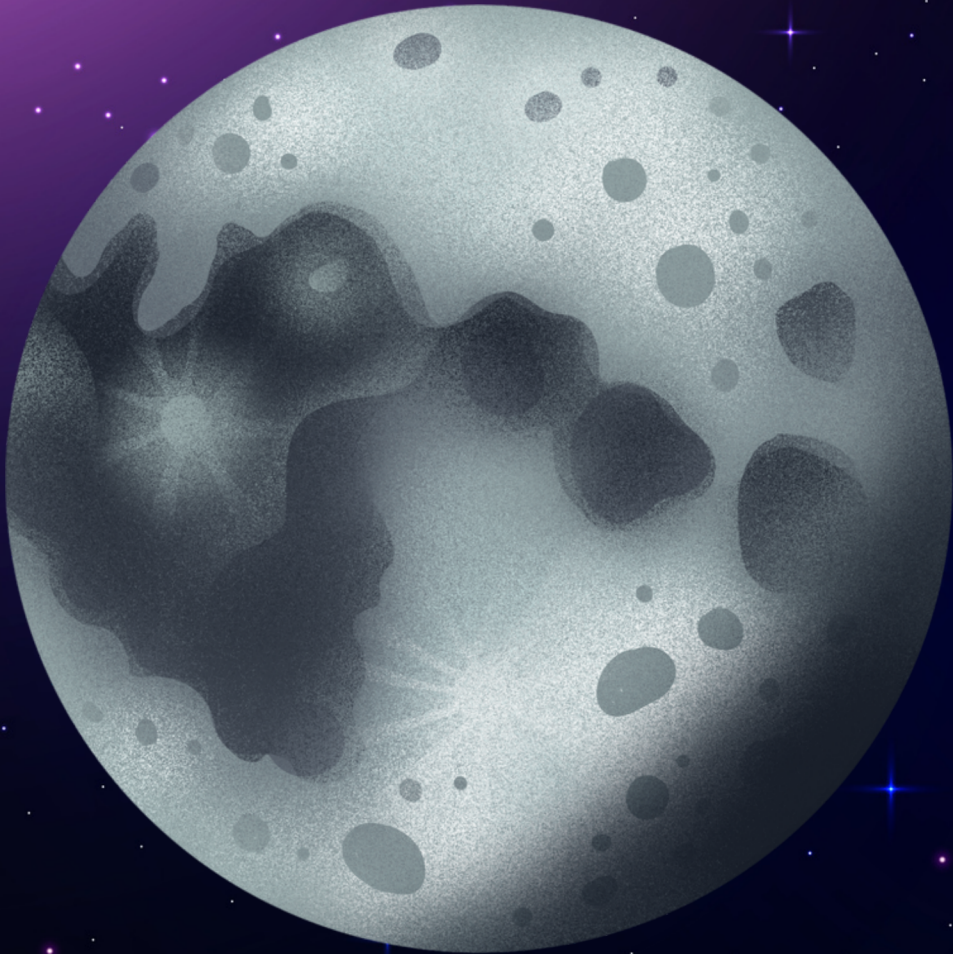
The sun is a giant ball of hot gas that gives off light and heat. It is the closest star to Earth and is located in the center of our solar system.

The sun is very big: it is so big that you could fit more than one million Earths inside it! It is about 93 million miles away. The sun is very hot. The surface of the sun is about 9,932 degrees Fahrenheit.

The sun is important for life on Earth. It provides us with light and heat, which are necessary for plants to grow and for us to stay warm. Without the sun, life on Earth would not be possible.

The sun also has some cool features, like sunspots and solar flares. Sunspots are dark spots on the sun's surface, and solar flares are bursts of energy that shoot out into space.

MERCURY



Mercury is the closest planet to the sun, and it is the smallest planet in our solar system. It is about one-third the size of Earth.

It is a very hot planet because it is so close to the sun. The temperature on Mercury can reach up to 800 degrees Fahrenheit during the day and drop down to -290 degrees Fahrenheit at night.

Mercury has a very thin atmosphere, which means it doesn't have the same kind of weather as Earth. It also doesn't have any moons or rings.

One day on Mercury is equal to 59 Earth days, and one year on Mercury is just 88 Earth days.



VENUS

Venus is the second planet from the sun and is sometimes called the Earth's twin because it is similar in size and composition to our planet. Venus is the hottest planet in our solar system, with surface temperatures that can reach up to 864 degrees Fahrenheit. This is hotter than the surface of Mercury, which is closer to the sun.

Venus rotates in the opposite direction to most other planets in our solar system, meaning that its day is longer than its year. One day on Venus is equal to 243 Earth days, while one year (the time it takes to orbit the sun) is equal to 225 Earth days.

Venus has a lot of volcanoes, some of which are still active. It also has some of the largest mountains in our solar system.

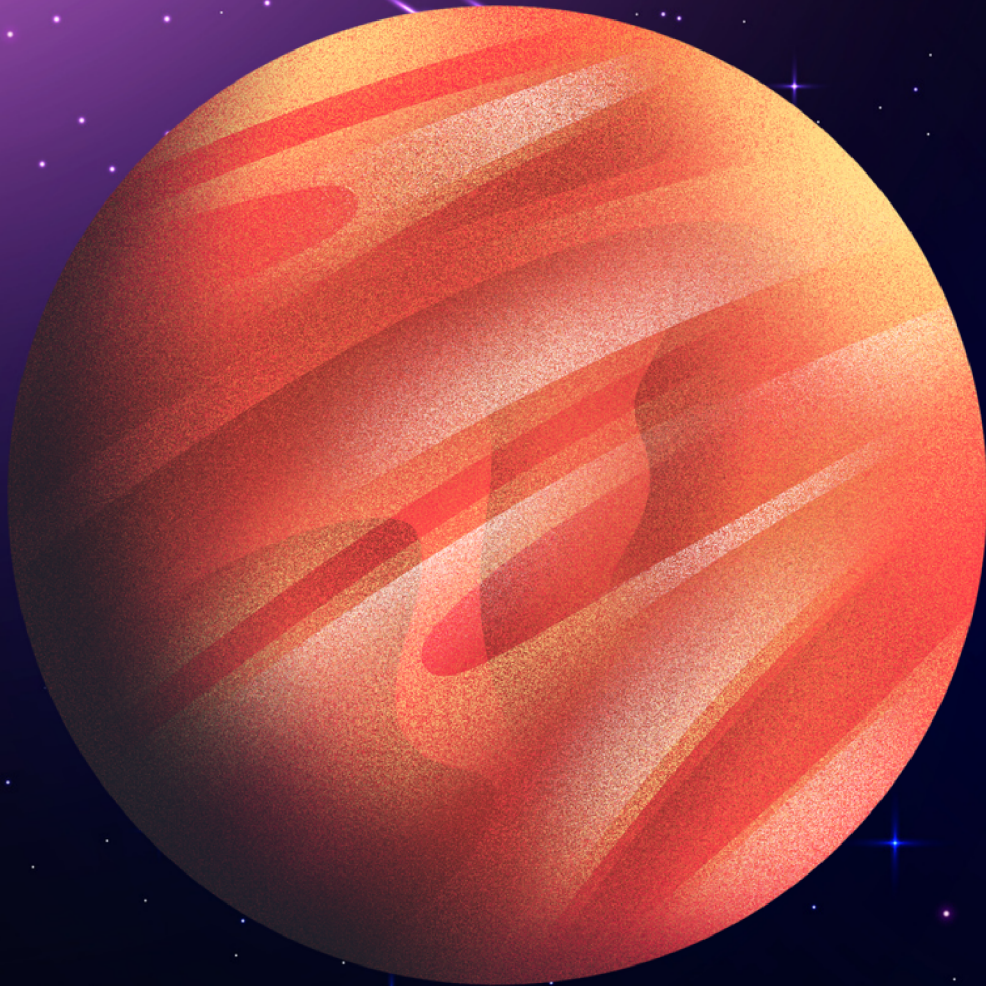
EARTH

Earth is the third planet from the sun and is the only planet known to support life. It is home to millions of different species of plants and animals, including humans. It has a wide range of environments, from deserts and rainforests to mountains and oceans, each with its unique ecosystems.

Earth is about 4.5 billion years old. It is constantly moving and changing. It rotates on its axis, which creates day and night, and it orbits around the sun, which takes one year to complete. The movement of the Earth also causes seasons, as the planet tilts towards or away from the sun at different times of the year.



MARS



Mars is the fourth planet from the sun and is often called the "Red Planet". Mars takes about twice as long as Earth to orbit around the sun.

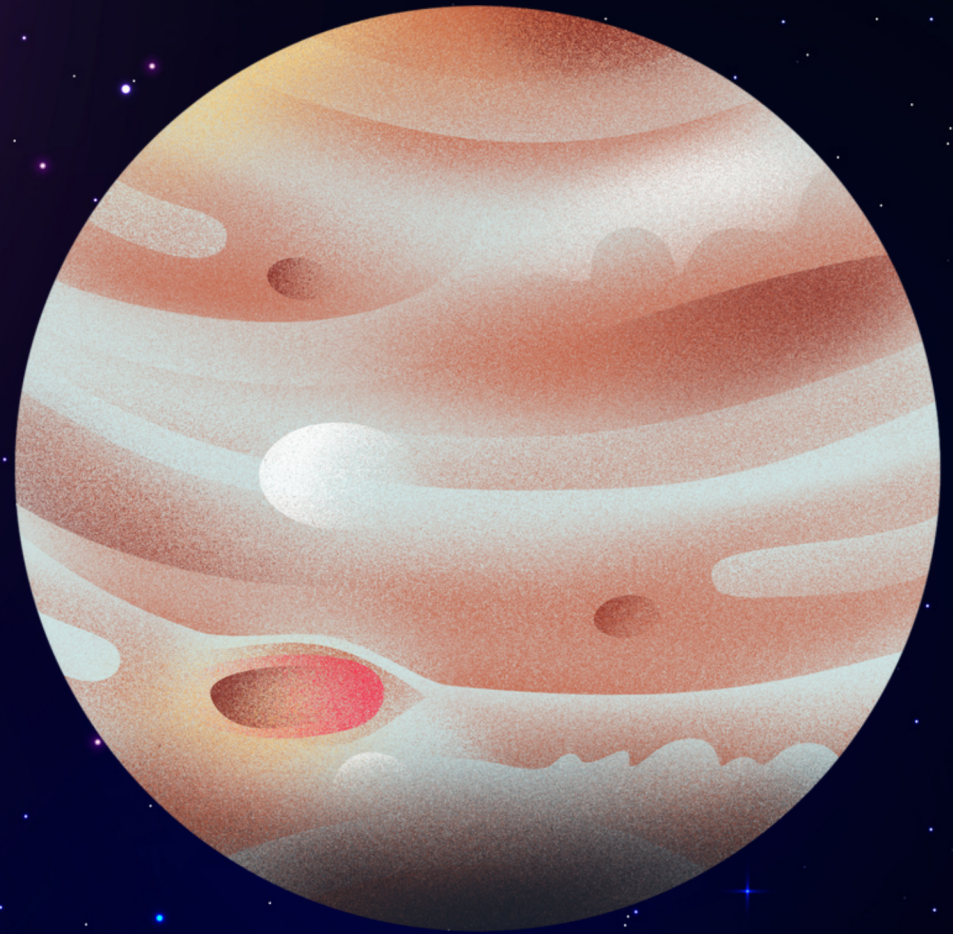
It has a similar day length to Earth, with a day lasting around 24.6 hours. Mars has the largest volcano and the longest canyon in our solar system..

Scientists have found evidence that Mars may have had liquid water on its surface in the past, which could mean it had the conditions necessary for life to exist. They are currently exploring Mars with rovers and landers to learn more about the planet's history and whether life may have existed there.

Jupiter is the largest planet in our solar system, more massive than all the other planets combined. It is a gas giant, which means it is mostly made up of gas and doesn't have a solid surface.

Jupiter has the shortest day of all the planets in our solar system, with a day lasting just under 10 hours. However, its year is the longest, taking just over 12 Earth years to complete one orbit around the sun. Jupiter has at least 79 moons, the most of any planet in our solar system.

The Great Red Spot is a huge storm that is about twice the size of Earth and has winds that can reach speeds of up to 400 miles per hour.



JUPITER



SATURN

Saturn is the sixth planet from the sun and is a gas giant, similar to Jupiter. It is best known for its spectacular system of rings, which are made up of ice and rock particles ranging in size from dust to large boulders.

Saturn is the second largest planet in our solar system, with a diameter about 9 times that of Earth. It has at least 82 moons. Saturn has a very active atmosphere, with powerful winds that can reach speeds of up to 1,100 miles per hour. The winds are so strong that they can create enormous storms that last for months or even years.

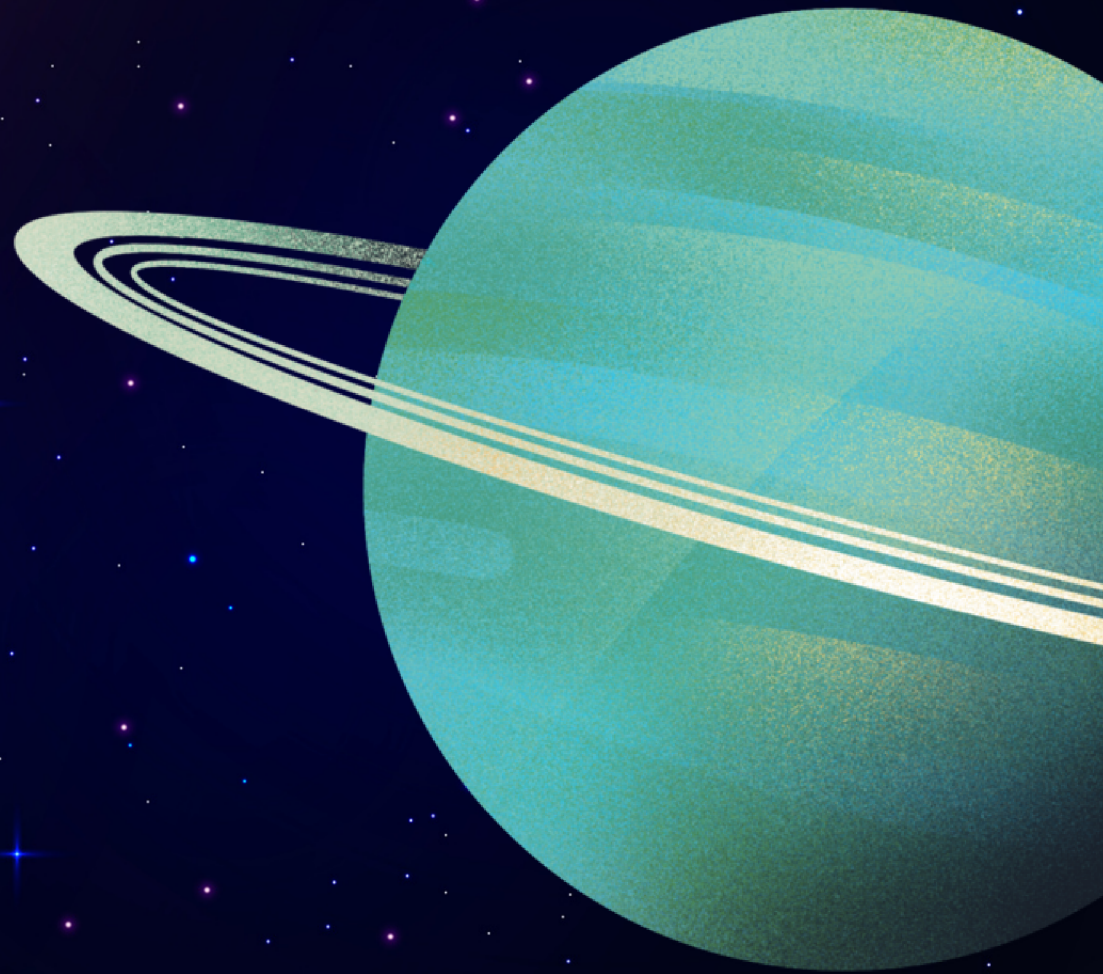
URANUS

Uranus is the seventh planet from the sun in our solar system and is an ice giant. It is also the coldest planet in our solar system, with temperatures that can drop as low as -371°F .

Uranus is the third largest planet in our solar system and has a diameter about four times that of Earth.

Uranus has 27 known moons. Its extreme seasons last for more than 20 years.

Uranus has a faint ring system, which was discovered in 1977. The rings are made up of dark particles and are difficult to see from Earth.

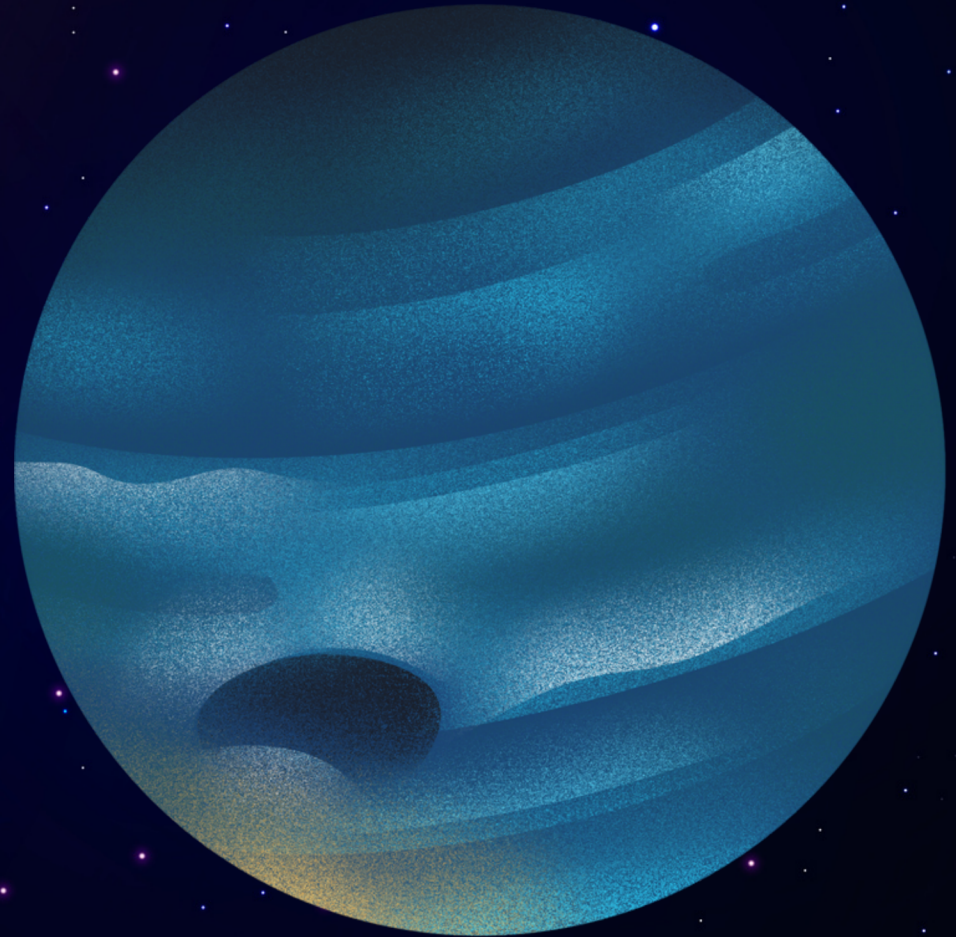


NEPTUNE

Neptune is the eighth and farthest planet from the sun in our solar system. It is a gas giant. Neptune is the fourth largest planet in our solar system and has a diameter about four times that of Earth.

Neptune has 14 known moons. It has a very active atmosphere, with powerful winds that create giant storms, such as the Great Dark Spot.

Neptune has a faint ring system made up of dust and small particles.



Welcome to a mind-blowing journey across the galaxy in this mind-boggling book about the solar system! Grab your spacesuit and get ready to dive into the extraordinary world beyond Earth. Discover the secrets of each planet, from blazing hot Mercury to the mysterious gas giants like Jupiter and Saturn. Explore the icy wonders of Uranus and Neptune, and meet their peculiar moons. Uncover mind-blowing facts about the Sun, the brightest star in our cosmic neighborhood. With mind-bending illustrations and mind-expanding knowledge, this book will take you on an interstellar adventure you'll never forget. Get ready to have your universe rocked by the wonders of the solar system!

