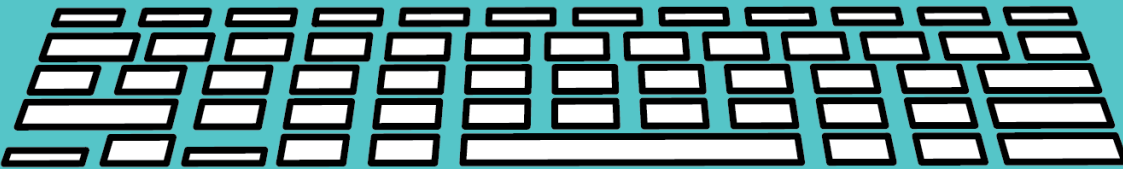
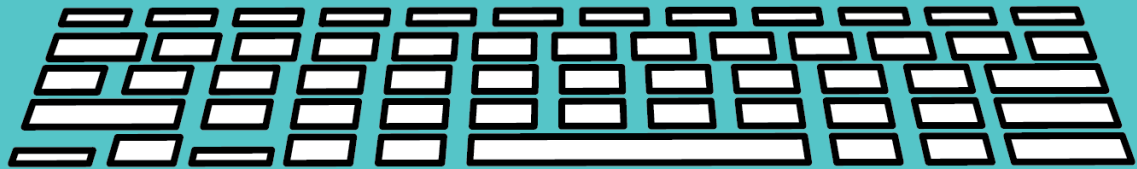


THE GREAT
RED SPOT
APPEARS TO
BE
SHRINKING

Short Answer	Type Answer Here
1. How many main moons does Jupiter have?	
2. What year was the great red spot discovered?	
3. What is Jupiter nicknamed?	
4. Which moon is the densest?	
5. Which moon is larger than Mercury?	
6. Which planet has the shortest days?	
7. Who discovered Jupiter's moons?	
8. How many rings does Jupiter have?	



Short Answer	Type Answer Here	Fill in the Blank	Type Answer Here
1. How many moons does Jupiter have?		9. Jupiter is the ____ planet from the Sun.	
2. What year was the great red spot discovered?		10. Gravity on Jupiter is ____ times that of Earth's.	
3. What is Jupiter nicknamed?		11. Jupiter is a ____ planet, like Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune.	
4. Which moon is the densest?		12. Jupiter sinks ____ centimeters every year.	
5. Which moon is larger than Mercury?		13. The great red spot is ____ times the size of Earth.	
6. Which planet has the shortest days?		14. Jupiter is named after the ____ god.	
7. Who discovered Jupiter's moons?		15. The ____ first spotted the rings of Jupiter.	
8. How many rings does Jupiter have?		16. The ____ first spotted Jupiter.	



PLANET JUPITER

Jupiter is the largest planet in the solar system, with a diameter of 88,846 miles (142,984 kilometers). But did you know that Jupiter shrinks 2 centimeters every year because of intense heat? Jupiter's mass is 318 times that of Earth. You could fit eleven Earths side by side within Jupiter's radius. Meanwhile, you could stuff 1,000 Earths inside Jupiter. At 485 million miles from the Sun, Jupiter is the 5th planet from the Sun.

The Babylonians first mentioned Jupiter during the 7th and 6th centuries. It is named after the Roman god Jupiter. Greeks thought the planet represented the god of thunder, Zeus.

Jupiter is a gas planet, like Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune. It is nicknamed the "gas giant." The thick swirling gas atmosphere around Jupiter is 90 percent hydrogen and 10 percent helium, similar to the Sun. These gases make up most of the planet. Jupiter doesn't have a solid surface that you can walk on. Experts think there is an inner core similar in size to Earth. Jupiter's interior includes compressed hydrogen gas, liquid metallic hydrogen, and a core of ice, rock, and metals.

Jupiter is like the solar system's vacuum cleaner because its gravity attracts and draws in comets and asteroids from the solar system. Gravity on Jupiter is 2.5 times the gravity on Earth. That means a 100-pound person on Earth would weigh about 240 pounds on Jupiter. Deep inside Jupiter, hydrogen turns into liquid and then morphs into metal due to pressure.

Jupiter was created about four billion years ago. The theory is that gravity pulled dust and gases together, forming Jupiter. It contains the leftover mass of the Sun from the Sun's formation, which explains its massive size. Had Jupiter grown 75 times larger, it could have ignited and become a second sun. That's why the planet Jupiter is often considered a star that failed. Jupiter has cloud belts that are red,

brown, yellow, and white. These layers contain ammonia, sulfur, methane, and water vapor.

Jupiter has four main moons, called Galilean moons. Galileo was the famous astronomer who discovered them in 1610. Some details about some of Jupiter's Galilean moons:

- Callisto has more craters than anything else in the solar system.
- Europa is covered in ice and has saltwater beneath the surface, making some think life exists there.
- Ganymede is the 9th largest object and the largest moon in the solar system (larger than Mercury); it is the only moon in the solar system with its own magnetic field.
- Io is the densest moon in the solar system and is covered in volcanoes and lava.

In all, there are 79 moons, with the potential for more.

Jupiter has four faint rings called the halo, main, Amalthea, and Thebes gossamer rings. The Voyager spacecraft first spotted the gossamer rings in 1976. In addition to the rings, Jupiter has the brightest aurora in the solar system. However, they can only be seen through ultraviolet light.

Jupiter's axis tilts 3 degrees which translates into short seasons. A day lasts only 9.8 hours because Jupiter spins so quickly. In 10 days on Jupiter are the shortest of any of the eight planets in the solar system. As a result of its fast spin, the equatorial parts of Jupiter are flattened, and the poles are bulged. However, due to the distance from the Sun, a year on Jupiter is 11.8 Earth years.

Weather on Jupiter includes massive hurricanes, storms, winds, thunder, and lightning. The winds are shaped in various differently colored bands called belts. Darker belts are called belts. The coloring of the clouds depends on the altitude. The highest, blue clouds are the lowest, and brown and white clouds are in the middle. Jupiter has an interesting "great red spot" that was first spotted by an Italian astronomer, spotted in 1665. The red spot is actually a 350-year-old storm, three times the size of Earth.

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