

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

### THE OUTER PLANETS

The outer planets are the planets that are the farthest from the sun. There are four outer planets. Their names are Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune. Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune are called "gas giants" because they are mostly made of gases and are very big.

The gas giants are Saturn, Jupiter, Uranus and Neptune. These four planets are similar to each other in some ways. The gas giants are all very different from the inner planets. One way that the gas giants are different from the inner planets is that the gas giants all have rings. Saturn has the most colorful and largest number of rings. Each gas giant has many moons. Jupiter has sixty-three moons. Saturn has at least fifty-six moons. Uranus has twenty-seven moons, and Neptune has thirteen moons. None of the inner planets have rings, and only Earth and Mars have moons. Earth has one moon and Mars has two moons.

### ANSWER THE QUESTIONS

1. What are the four planets that are farthest from the sun named?

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2. Why are Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune called gas giants?

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3. Which planets are bigger: inner planets or outer planets?

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4. What are two ways that the gas giants are different from the inner planets?

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5. Which outer planet has the most moons?

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