

Vidya Bhawan Balika Vidyapith, Lkr.

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Ch1-The planet Earth

The Planets

All the eight planets of our solar system-Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter Saturn, Uranus and Neptune-revolve around the Sun in fixed paths are known as **orbits**. They also rotate on its axis while revolving around the Sun. Planets do not have their own light; they reflect the light of Sun. Pluto is removed from the list of planets and is re-categorised as dwarf planet. All the planets are spherical in shape and vary in sizes. Jupiter is the largest and Mercury is the smallest of all the planets. Mercury, Venus, Earth, and Mars(the Red planet) are rocky; Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune are gaseous and liquid. The hottest planet is Venus(not Mercury, even though it is the closest to the Sun). This is so because the atmosphere of Venus that's the Sun's heat.

Some planets are rings of dust, ice and rocks. Uranus and Neptune are only visible through a telescope. Since they are far from Earth. Since they are at greater distance from the Sun, they are too cold to support any form of life.

Earth:The Unique Planet

The Earth is sometimes called **blue planet** because it is seen from space, it appears blue due to reflection of light from the water on its surface. It is so called also because three-fourths of its surface covered with water.

Like all other planets, except Venus the Earth rotates on its axis from West To east. Scientist believe that the Earth is the only planet where life exist. This makes our Earth a unique planet. Earth has all the essential elements that act as Building blocks for the origin of life.

Punit Kumar