

Vocabulary: The Secret of the Cardboard Rocket

Asteroid

Boulder to mountain-sized piece of rock remaining from the early solar system. The largest asteroid is only 1000 kilometers across but most are much smaller.

Craters

A hole in the ground made by the impact of a meteorite.

Earth

The third planet from the Sun.

Great Red Spot

A giant hurricane like storm that is about 2 times bigger than the size of Earth.

Greenhouse Effect

The trapping of heat energy close to a planet's surface by certain types of gases in the atmosphere (e.g., water, methane, and carbon dioxide). These gases allow visible light from the Sun to reach the surface but prevent the infrared light from the heated surface to radiate back to space.

Jupiter

The fifth planet from the Sun.

Mercury

The closest planet to the Sun.

Moon

A rocky sphere that orbits the Earth.

Neptune

The eighth planet from the Sun.

Observatory

A place or building that uses large telescopes for observing outer space.

Olympus Mons

The largest mountain in the solar system. This mountain is a volcano and found on Mars.

Orbit

The path one object takes around another object.

Planetarium

A domed room in which shows the night sky from any locations at any time far in the past to far in the future. Some planetariums are able to show all dome films surrounding the audience with the action.

Revolve

When an object moves in a circular-like pattern (orbits) another object

Rotate

When an object spins

Saturn

The sixth planet from the Sun.

Sun

The star at the center of our solar system.

Uranus

The seventh planet from the Sun.

Valles Marineris

A huge canyon. It is found on Mars

Venus

The second planet from the Sun.