

# Planet Match

## Matching key facts about the planets

### Outcomes

- Identify key facts about the planets in the solar system
- Develop listening skills

### Set up

- Groups of 3-4 or pairs
- Sufficient space for each group to travel between their 2 hoops (5-10m apart)

### Resources required

- Printed Match cards, enough for 1 set per group/pair
- 1 set per group or pair
- 2 hoops per group/pair

### Cross curricular learning opportunities

Geography, Science, English (Vocabulary, Non-fiction, Speaking and Listening)

### Character development opportunities

Turn taking, team work, cooperation, resilience.

Active learning  
contributes to pupils'  
recommended 60  
daily active minutes



CMO Guidelines 2019

### Making it easier.

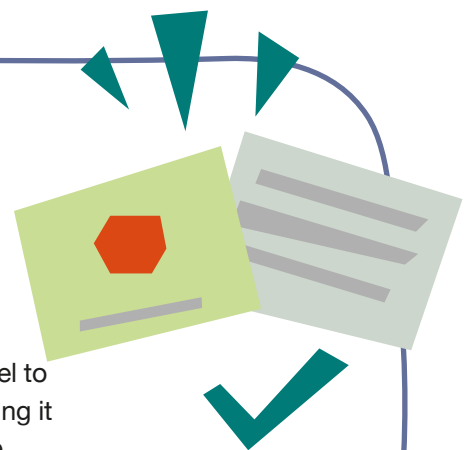
Play with a smaller selection of cards and read through as a class before starting the activity. Match the planet names with planet images instead of planet facts.

### Making it harder.

Produce the fact cards with fewer facts to increase complexity of matching.

## Active Science Let's Go!

1. Divide class into groups of 3 or 4 (or pairs).
2. Place the 'Planet name cards' face down in one hoop.
3. Place the 'Fact cards' face down in the other hoop.
4. Starting at the 'Planet Name Cards' hoop. The whole group/pair travel to the 'Fact card' hoop and turn over 1 card. They read the facts and bring it back to the 'Planet Name Cards' hoop where pupils keep turning the cards over until they find the correct planet.
5. Pupils place the correctly matched cards side by side outside of the hoop.
6. Pupils repeat this until all their 'Fact cards' have been matched with their 'Planet name cards'.

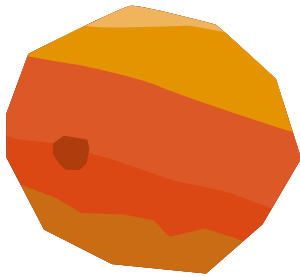


Copy and cut into individual cards



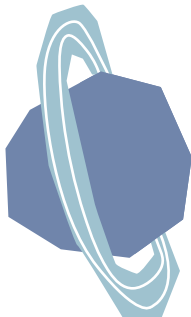
Neptune

1. I am the 8th and furthest planet out from the Sun.
2. I am the 4th largest planet in the solar system.
3. I was first documented in 1846.
4. My atmosphere is thick and stormy.



Jupiter

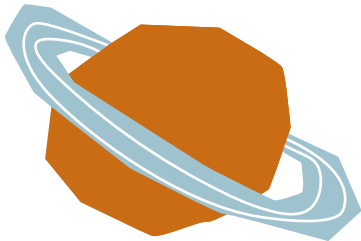
1. I am the 5th planet out from the Sun.
2. I am made mostly of gases and am therefore known as a "gas giant".
3. I have 79 moons, the only planet with more in our solar system is Saturn.
4. I have rings but they are mostly made of small bits of dust so it is not easy to see them.



Uranus

1. I am the 7th planet out from the Sun.
2. I am the third largest planet in our solar system.
3. I am four hundred times the size of the Earth!
4. I spin on my side as I orbit the sun.

Copy and cut into individual cards



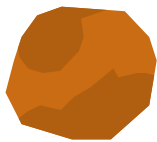
Saturn

1. I am the 6th planet out from the Sun.
2. I am the 2nd largest planet in our Solar System.
3. You cannot stand on me as I am made mostly of gases.
4. I have beautiful rings around me.



Mars

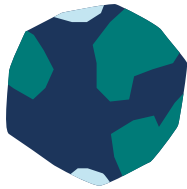
1. I am the 4th planet out from the Sun.
2. I am dusty, cold and a desert planet with a thin atmosphere.
3. I have seasons, polar ice caps, extinct volcanoes, canyons, and weather.
4. I am the only planet where rovers have been sent to roam the alien landscape.



Venus

1. I am the 2nd planet out from the Sun.
2. I am the second largest terrestrial planet.
3. I am sometimes referred to as the Earth's sister planet because we have a similar size and mass.
4. I am named after the Roman goddess of love and beauty.

Copy and cut into individual cards



Earth

1. I am the 3rd planet out from the Sun.
2. I am approximately 4.5 billion years old.
3. I am the only known planet in the Universe to have life.
4. I complete one rotation around my own axis in 23 hours, 58 minutes, and 4 seconds, almost 24 hours.



Mercury

1. I am the closest planet to the Sun.
2. I do not have any moons or rings.
3. I am the smallest planet.
4. It's not known who discovered me.



Pluto

1. I was seen as the 9th planet in our solar system.
2. I was reclassified from a planet to a dwarf planet in 2006.
3. I am the largest dwarf planet.
4. I am mostly made up of ice and rock.