

NAME:

DATE:

BLOCK:

## THE PLANETS – A Computer Research Worksheet

Go to each website and find the answers to each question. Write your answer in the space provided.

1. Go to: <http://science.nationalgeographic.com/science/space/planets> and click on NEPTUNE

- What makes Neptune so blue? \_\_\_\_\_
- How far is Neptune from the sun (in kilometres)? \_\_\_\_\_
- A Great Dark Spot was seen on Neptune in 1989. How big was it AND what was this spot?  
\_\_\_\_\_

2. Go to: <http://www.abc.net.au/science/space> and click on MERCURY (on the right)

- Why is Mercury so hard to look at? \_\_\_\_\_
- What is the name of the only spacecraft to visit Mercury? \_\_\_\_\_
- What are the two main surface features of Mercury? \_\_\_\_\_

3. Go to: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/science/space/solarsystem> and click on the link “The Sun and the Planets” and then click on JUPITER

- Who named the planet Jupiter? \_\_\_\_\_
- Jupiter is the third-brightest object in our night sky. What are the two brightest objects?  
\_\_\_\_\_

4. Go back one page to “The Sun and the Planets” and click on The Sun.

- What type of Dwarf Star is the Sun? \_\_\_\_\_
- What 2 phenomena on the Sun are caused by its magnetic field? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_
- What is the Sun’s main fuel? \_\_\_\_\_

**TURN OVER!**

5. Go back one page to “The Sun and the Planets” and click on the blue word PLUTO on the right.

- What year was Pluto discovered and what year did it lose its planet status? \_\_\_\_\_
- What are the names of the other two objects that were classified as “dwarf planets” with Pluto?  
\_\_\_\_\_

- What is the size and volume of Pluto compared to the Earth’s Moon? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

6. Go to: <http://amazing-space.stsci.edu/resources/explorations/> and click on Mission Mastermind.

- In this interactive activity you need to click on each photo and read the description. Your objective is to put the pictures in order from A to J.

1. \_\_\_\_\_ 2. \_\_\_\_\_ 3. \_\_\_\_\_ 4. \_\_\_\_\_ 5. \_\_\_\_\_ 6. \_\_\_\_\_ 7. \_\_\_\_\_ 8. \_\_\_\_\_ 9. \_\_\_\_\_ 10. \_\_\_\_\_

7. Go back to: <http://amazing-space.stsci.edu/resources/explorations/> and click on Hubble Deep Field Academy. Click on “Cosmic Classifier” and follow the instructions.

- After you’ve submitted your answers and are comparing your observations with those of an astronomer, answer the following questions below:
- List 3 objects on which you and the astronomers agreed. Use their numbers to identify them.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- List 3 objects on which you and the astronomers disagreed. Use their numbers to identify them.  
\_\_\_\_\_
- Give at least one reason why you think you and the astronomers may have disagreed.  
\_\_\_\_\_

8. Find an interesting space fact on a website that I did not send you to.

- Write down the URL: \_\_\_\_\_
- Is this a reliable website? Why or why not? \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_