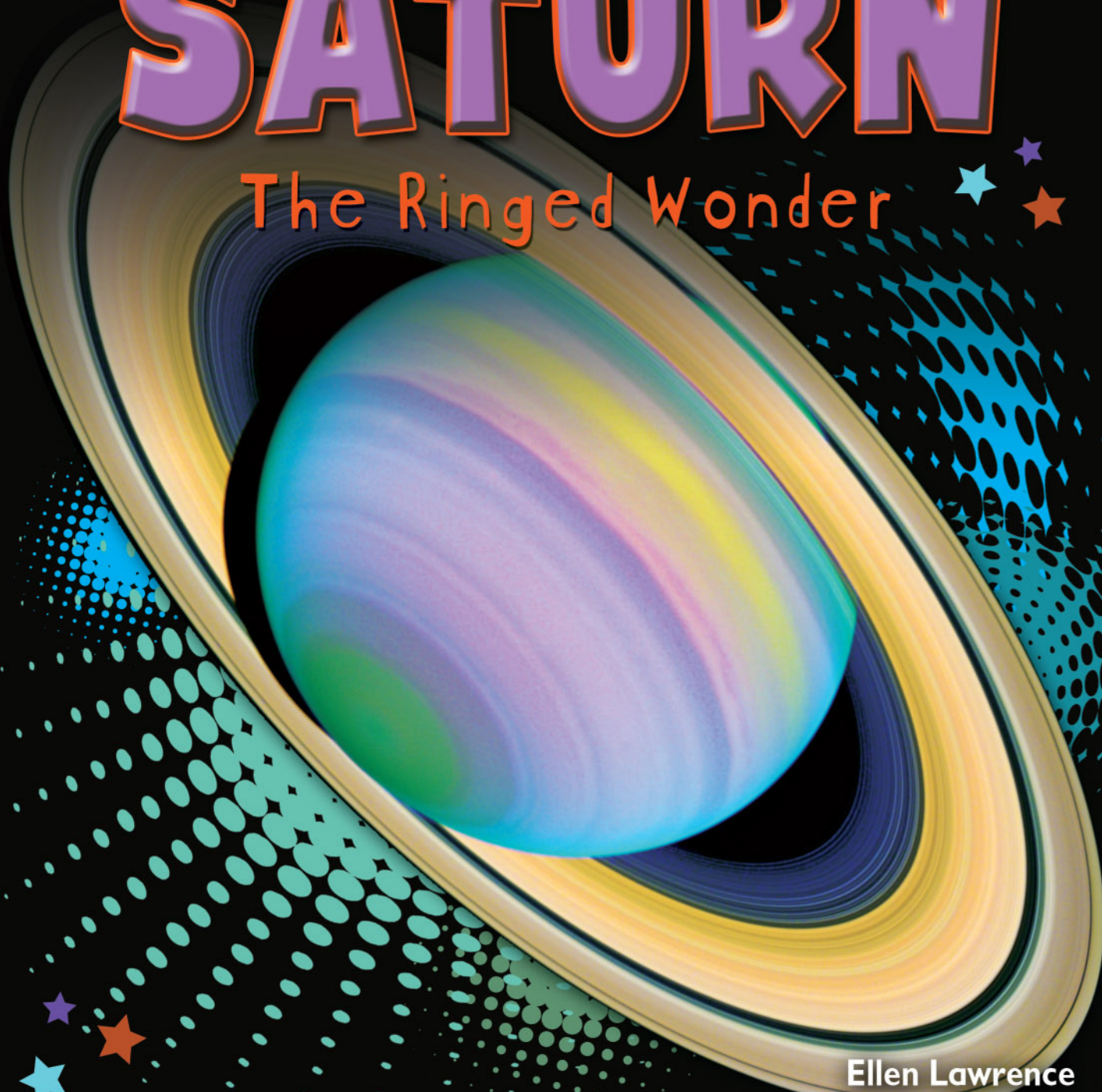




# SATURN

The Ringed Wonder



Ellen Lawrence

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# SATURN

## The Ringed Wonder

by Ellen Lawrence

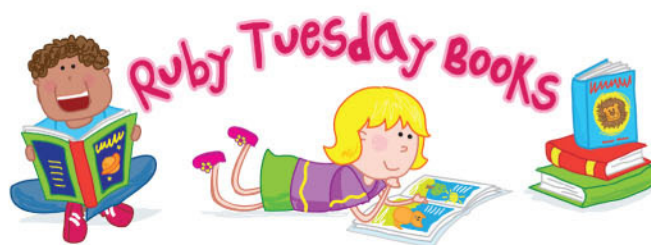
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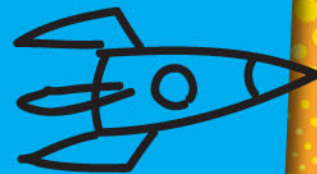
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Words shown in **bold** in the text are explained in the glossary.





# Welcome to Saturn



Imagine flying to a world that is nearly a billion miles from Earth.

As your spacecraft gets close, you see this world is surrounded by huge rings.

The rings are made of dust and chunks of ice.

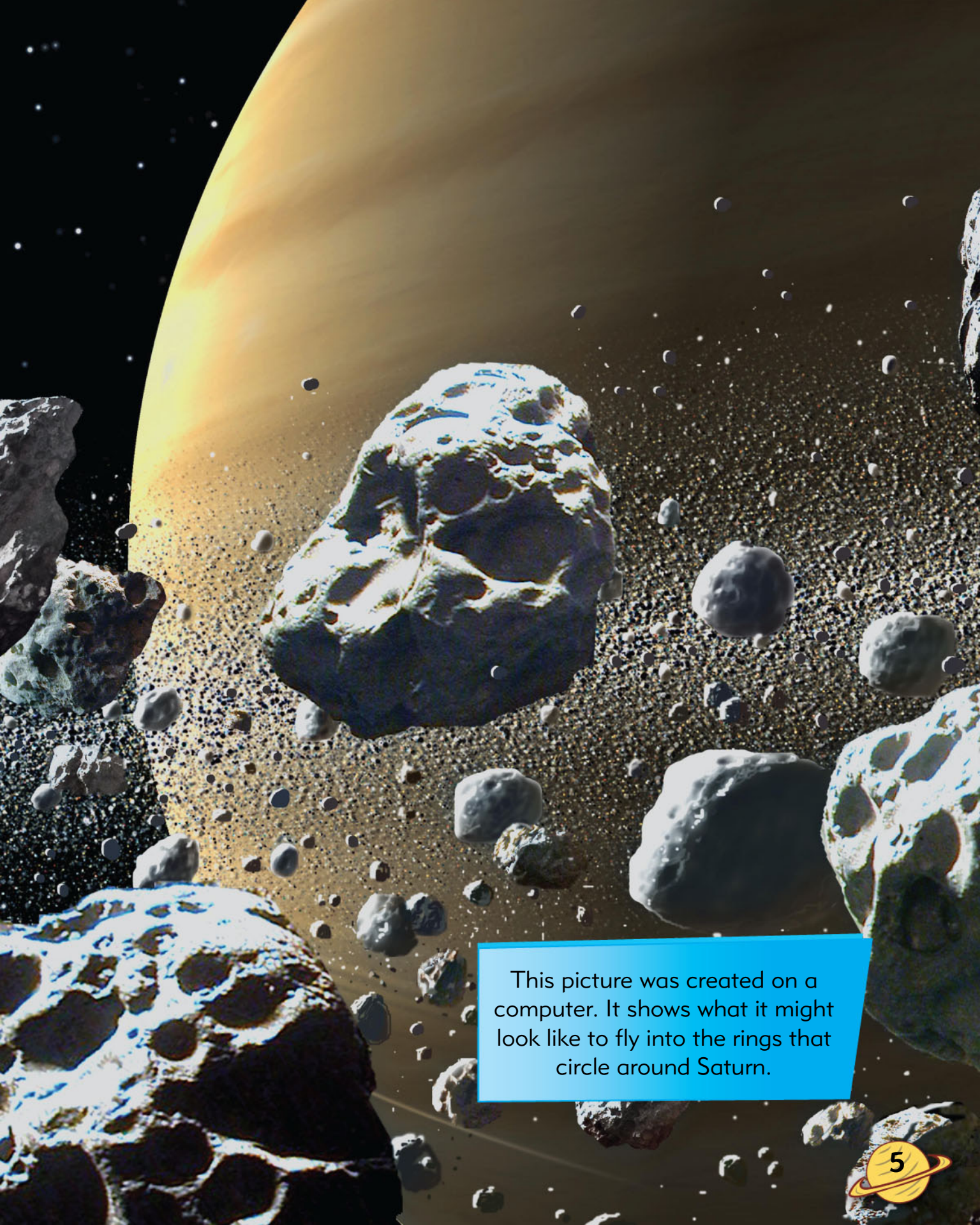
You manage to fly through the icy rings, but there is nowhere to land.

That's because this distant world is a gigantic ball of **gases** and liquids.

Welcome to the **planet** Saturn!

No humans have ever visited Saturn, but spacecraft have. The spacecraft sent information about the planet back to scientists on Earth.





This picture was created on a computer. It shows what it might look like to fly into the rings that circle around Saturn.





# The Solar System



Saturn is moving through space at about 21,500 miles per hour (35,000 km/h).

It is moving around the Sun in a huge circle.

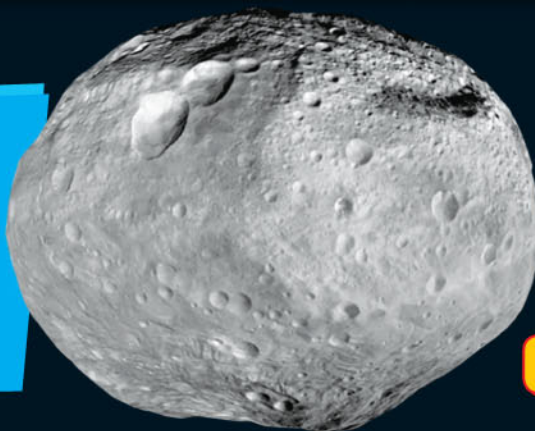
Saturn is one of eight planets circling the Sun.

The planets are called Mercury, Venus, our home planet Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune.

Icy **comets** and large rocks, called **asteroids**, are also moving around the Sun.

Together, the Sun, the planets, and other space objects are called the **solar system**.

Most of the asteroids in the solar system are in a ring called the asteroid belt.

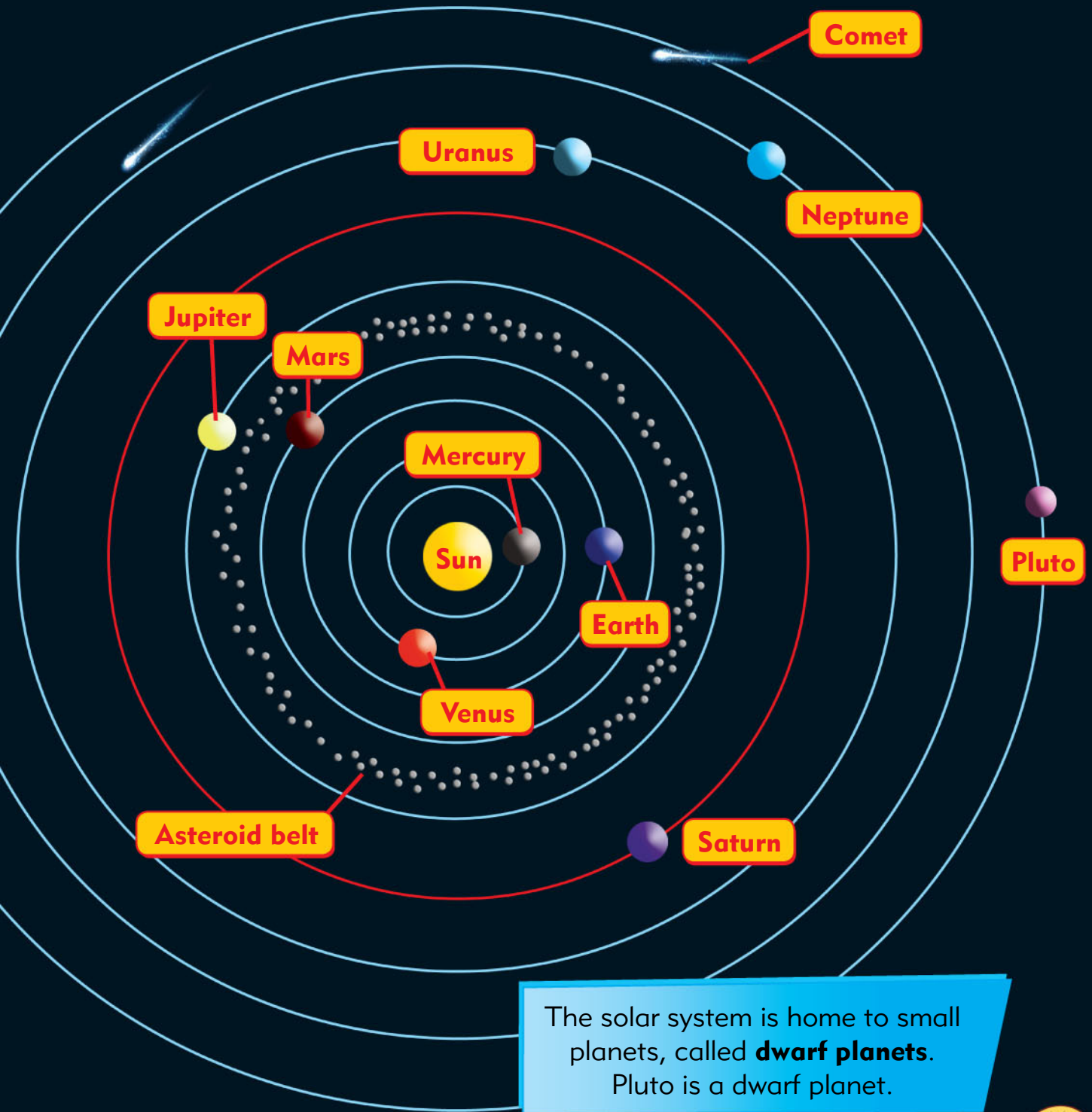


An asteroid



# The Solar System

Saturn is the sixth planet from the Sun.



The solar system is home to small planets, called **dwarf planets**.  
Pluto is a dwarf planet.

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# Read More

**Allyn, Daisy.** *Saturn: The Ringed Planet (Our Solar System).* New York: Gareth Stevens (2011).

**Hughes, Catherine D.** *First Big Book of Space (National Geographic Little Kids).* Washington, D.C.: The National Geographic Society (2012).

# Learn More Online

To learn more about Saturn, go to  
[www.rubytuesdaybooks.com/saturn](http://www.rubytuesdaybooks.com/saturn)



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# SATURN

## The Ringed Wonder

Nearly a billion miles from Earth, a huge world made of gases and liquids circles the Sun. This planet is surrounded by beautiful rings of ice and dust, and it travels through space with its family of over 50 moons.



**Welcome to Saturn!**



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