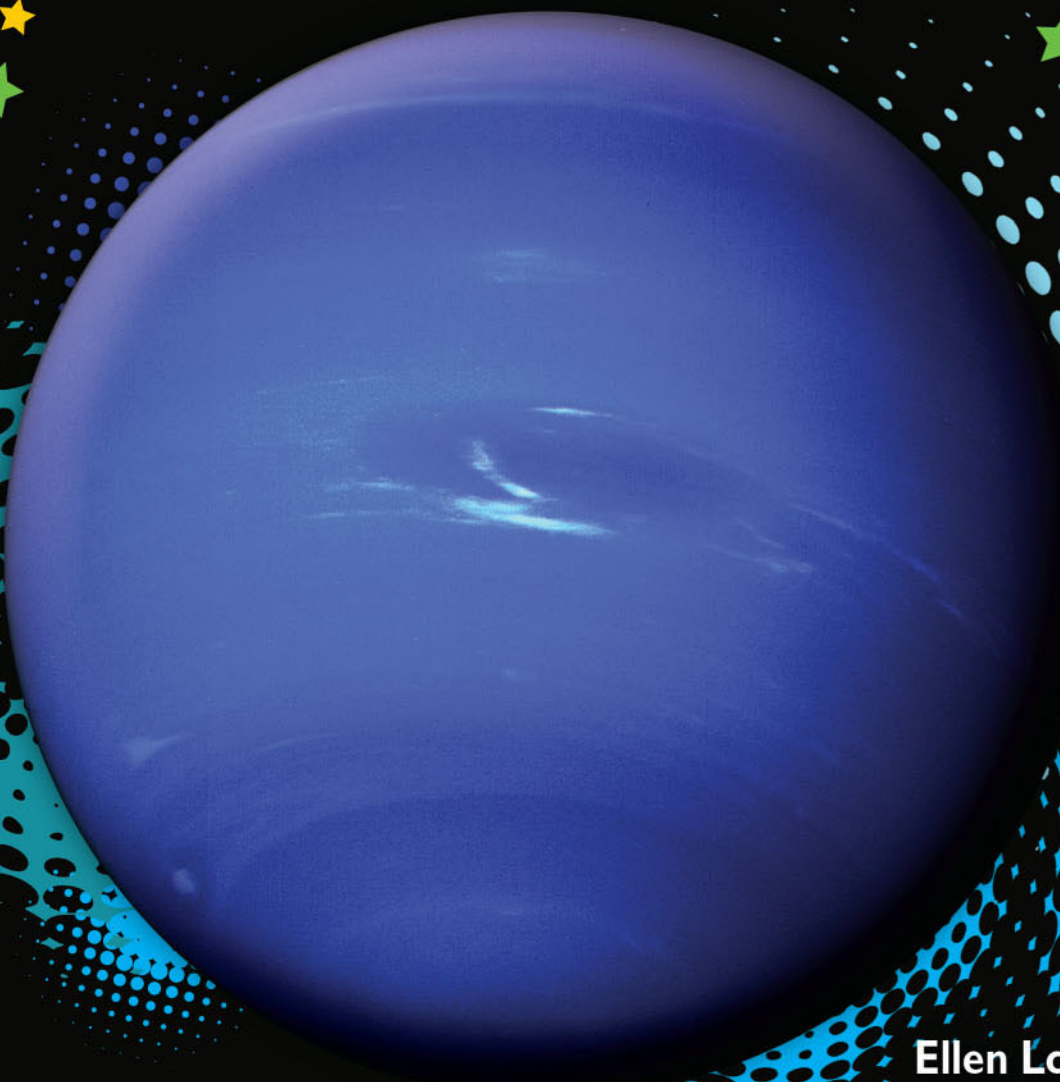




NEPTUNE

The Stormiest Planet



Ellen Lawrence

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NEPTUNE

The Stormiest Planet

by Ellen Lawrence

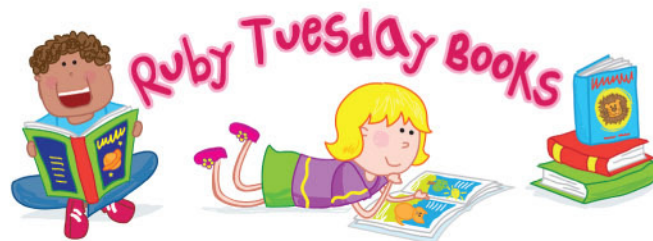
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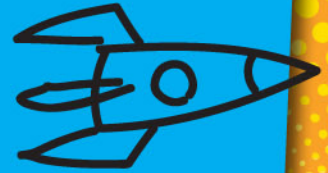
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Contents



Welcome to Neptune.....	4
The Solar System.....	6
Neptune’s Amazing Journey	8
A Closer Look at Neptune	10
Stormy Neptune	12
Neptune’s Family of Moons	14
A Mission to Neptune	16
Exciting Discoveries	18
Neptune Fact File	20
Get Crafty: Melted Wax Crayon Neptune.....	22
Glossary	23
Index	24
Read More.....	24
Learn More Online.....	24



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



Welcome to Neptune



Imagine flying to a world that is billions of miles from Earth.

As your spacecraft gets close, you see a blue world covered with clouds.

Inside the clouds are strong winds and fierce storms that could destroy your spacecraft.

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

That's because this faraway world is a huge ball of icy **gases** and liquids.

Welcome to the **planet** Neptune!

No humans have ever visited Neptune, but a spacecraft has. In 1989, a space **probe** called *Voyager 2* flew past the planet.



This photograph of Neptune
was taken by *Voyager 2*.

The Solar System



Neptune is moving through space at over 12,000 miles per hour (19,000 km/h).

It is moving in a huge circle around the Sun.

Neptune 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**.

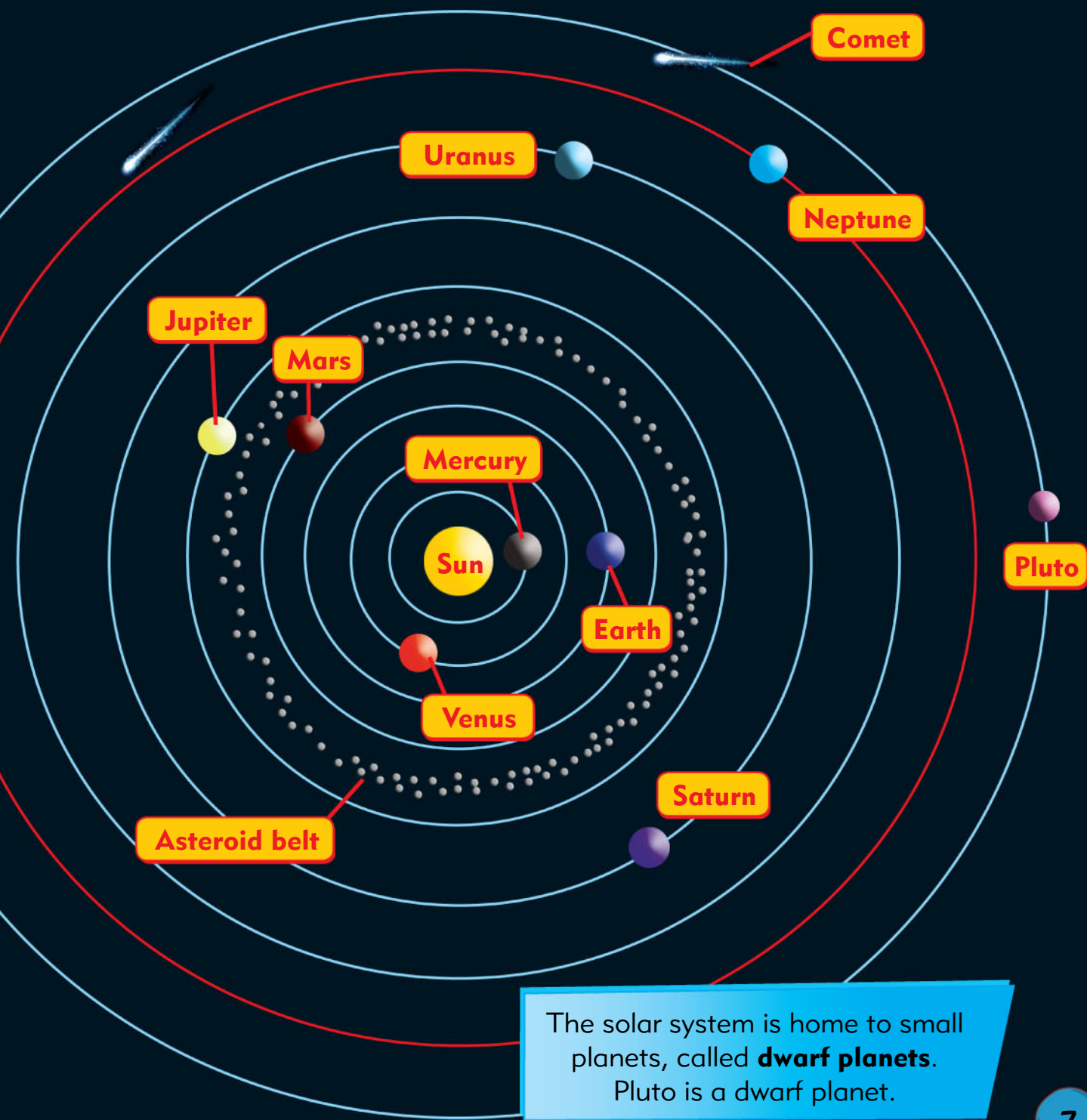
Most of the asteroids in the solar system are in a ring called the asteroid belt.



An asteroid

The Solar System

Neptune is the farthest planet from the Sun.



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

Index

- A**
asteroids 6–7, 9
atmosphere 10–11, 12
- C**
clouds 4, 10–11, 12
comets 6–7
- D**
dwarf planets 7
- E**
Earth 4, 6–7, 8–9,
10–11, 12–13, 14,
16, 18–19, 20
- G**
gases 4, 10
Great Dark Spot
12–13
- H**
hurricanes 12–13
- M**
moons 14–15, 18, 21
- P**
planets 4, 6–7, 8, 10,
16, 20
- R**
rings 18
- S**
size of Neptune 10–11,
20
solar system 6–7, 9, 10,
12, 14, 16, 20
speed 6, 21
storms 4, 12–13
- Sun, the 6–7, 8–9,
20–21
- T**
temperatures 14–15,
21
Triton 14–15
- V**
volcanoes 15
Voyager 2 4–5, 12–13,
16–17, 18–19
- W**
winds 4, 12
- Y**
years 8, 21

Read More

Rosa, Greg. *Neptune: The Stormy 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 Neptune, go to
www.rubytuesdaybooks.com/neptune

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NEPTUNE

The Stormiest Planet

Nearly 3 billion miles from Earth, a stormy, blue world circles the Sun. This icy planet is home to huge storms that are 10 times more powerful than the most destructive hurricanes here on Earth.



Welcome to Neptune!



Titles in this series

COMETS, METEORS, AND ASTEROIDS

Voyagers of the Solar System

EARTH

Our Home in the Solar System

JUPITER

The Giant of the Solar System

MARS

The Dusty Planet

MERCURY

The High-Speed Planet

THE MOON

Our Neighbor in Space

NEPTUNE

The Stormiest Planet

PLUTO

and the Dwarf Planets

SATURN

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THE SUN

The Star of Our Solar System

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VENUS

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