

Space Q & A Game



How to play:

This is a simple oral question/answer game that will teach your students lots of fascinating space facts. You can play by calling on individual students, or allowing groups of students to work as teams.

This is a game you need to play more than once, but over time it will make your students feel like real space experts. If you only play the game one time, your students probably won't be able to remember any of the facts. The learning comes through repetition.

The questions are hard - and kids probably won't know most of the answers the first time you play. That's okay, because when the questions are repeated the second, third, and fourth time you play the game, they will become better and better at remembering the answers.

The first time you play, most of their answers will probably be guesses. The second time you play, they will probably know some of the answers. The third time you play, they'll know more answers. And so on.

You may want to offer a small prize for students who answer questions correctly, or teams who win the game.

Space Question-Answer Game

Questions Page 1

Question 1: What planet is closest to the sun?

Answer: Mercury

Question 2: Which is the hottest planet?

Answer: Venus

Question 3: Why is Venus hotter than Mercury?

Answer: Clouds cover the planet and keep heat in.

Question 4: How far away is the sun?

Answer: 93-million miles

Question 5: How long does it take the sun's light to reach Earth?

Answer: 8 minutes

Question 6: What star is closest to the Earth?

Answer: the sun

Question 7: What star is second closest to the Earth?

Answer: Alpha Centuri

Question 8: How far away is it?

Answer: 4.3 light years

Question 9: Why can't we see it at night?

Answer: You can only see it in the Southern Hemisphere. People in the Southern Hemisphere see different stars than the people in the Northern Hemisphere do.

Question 10: Name all of the planets in order, from closest to the sun to farthest away.

Answer: Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune. And Pluto kinda.

Question 11: How many stars are in our solar system?

Answer: one (Our solar system consists of the sun and the objects that orbit around it.)

Space Question-Answer Game

Questions Page 2

Question 12: How many stars are in our galaxy?

Answer: billions (Nobody knows exactly how many, but some scientists estimate about 100 billion.)

Question 13: What is the name of our galaxy?

Answer: the Milky Way

Question 14: Name Jupiter's two largest moons.

Answer: Io and Europa

Question 15: How many moons does Jupiter have?

Answer: Over 57

Question 16: Which two planets do not have moons?

Answer: Mercury and Venus

Question 17: What is another name for the "North Star"?

Answer: Polaris

Question 18: Where is the North Star located?

Answer: directly over the North Pole of the Earth

Question 19: Who were the first two people to walk on the moon?

Answer: Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin

Question 20: Name the 5 space shuttles built in America.

Answer: Discovery, Columbia, Challenger, Atlantis, and Endeavor

Question 21: What is a satellite?

Answer: Anything that orbits a planet.

Question 22: What was the name of the first man-made satellite in space?

Answer: Sputnik (It was a Russian satellite)

Question 23: What is the Earth's biggest satellite?

Answer: the moon

Space Question-Answer Game

Questions Page 3

Question 24: What is the International Space Station?

Answer: A large satellite where astronauts/scientists can live and work.

Question 25: What is the name of the large space telescope that orbits the Earth?

Answer: Hubble Space Telescope

Question 26: What is a supernova?

Answer: an exploding star

Question 27: Name all of the planets that people have walked on.

Answer: Earth (People have walked on the moon, but that's not a planet.)

Question 28: Why can't you land on Jupiter?

Answer: It's a large gas planet.

Question 29: Which planet is nicknamed "the morning star" and "the evening star"?

Answer: Venus (But remember - it's not really a star. It's a planet.)

Question 30: What is the big red spot on Jupiter?

Answer: a giant wind storm

Question 31: Why can't you see Neptune or Pluto without a telescope?

Answer: They're too far away and it's too dark in that part of the solar system.

Question 32: Which is the smallest planet?

Answer: Mercury (Pluto's not a planet anymore)

Question 33: How long does it take Earth to orbit around the sun?

Answer: 365 days

Question 34: How long does it take the Earth to rotate/spin all the way around?

Answer: 24 hours

Space Question-Answer Game

Questions Page 4

Question 35: What is a constellation?

Answer: a group of stars that forms the shape of a person, animal, or object

Question 36: How many stars are in the big dipper?

Answer: seven

Question 37: An American space explorer is an astronaut. What is a Russian space explorer?

Answer: Cosmonaut

Question 38: Which planet spins on its side?

Answer: Uranus

Question 39: Which planet used to have the "Great Dark Spot"?

Answer: Neptune (The dark spot was a large storm that mysteriously disappeared in the 1990s.)

Question 40: Where does gravity pull people/objects?

Answer: towards the CENTER of a planet or star.

Question 41: What's a blue moon?

Answer: the second full moon in a month

Question 42: How long does it take the moon to orbit the Earth?

Answer: 29 days

Question 43: What's the difference between a waxing moon and a waning moon?

Answer: a waxing moon is getting bigger and a waning moon is getting smaller

Question 44: Like Earth, Mars is covered with air. What type of gas is makes up most of Mars' air?

Answer: carbon dioxide

Space Question-Answer Game

Questions Page 5

Question 45: Pluto is not a planet. What is it?

Answer: a dwarf planet (also accept: planetoid)

Question 46: How many dwarf planets are in our solar system?

Answer: five

Question 47: Which planet is nicknamed the "Red Planet"?

Answer: Mars

Question 48: Which planet is nicknamed the "Cloudy Planet"?

Answer: Venus

Question 49: Which two planets are closest to Earth?

Answer: Venus and Mars

Question 50: If you were standing above the North Pole looking down, which way would Earth rotate?

Answer: counter-clockwise