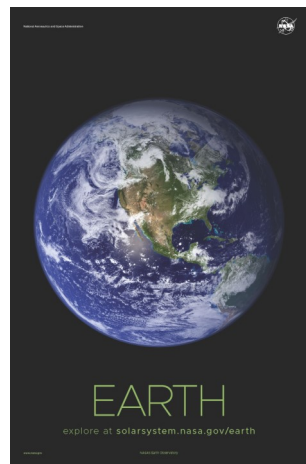


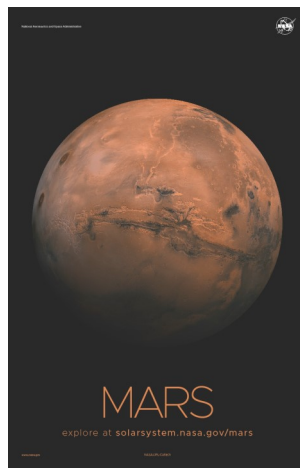
**Mercury:** 0 moons  
**Distance:** 0.4 AU or 36 million miles  
**Time it takes sunlight to reach planet:** 2.75 minutes  
**Length of year:** 88 earth days  
**Rotation:** 59 Earth days. It is 1/3 size of Earth.  
Mercury is 2.6x smaller than the Earth.  
If Earth were size of nickel, Mercury would be the size of a blueberry.



**Venus:** 0 moons  
**Distance:** 0.7 AU or 67 million miles  
**Time it takes sunlight to reach planet:** 6 minutes  
**Length of year:** 225 Earth days. Venus is nearly the same size of the Earth.  
**Rotation:** 243 Earth days & backwards. Longest day in the solar system.



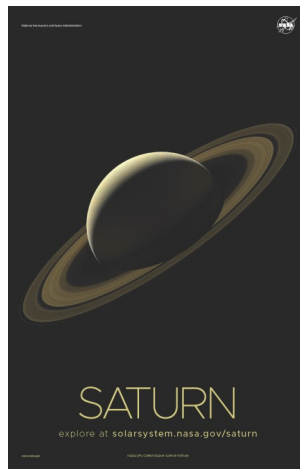
**Earth: You are here!**  
1 Moon & 1 AU or 93 million miles  
**Time it takes sunlight to reach planet:** 8.19 minutes  
**Length of year:** 365.25 days. All of the planets except for Earth were named after Greek & Roman gods/goddesses. Earth-Germanic word for 'the ground'  
Largest terrestrial planet



**Mars:** 2 Moons, Phobos & Deimos. 1.5 AU or 142 million miles  
**Time it takes sunlight to reach planet:** 12.76 minutes  
**Length of year:** 687 Earth days. Mars is about 1/2 size of Earth. Very thin atmosphere. If Earth were the size of a nickel, Mars would be the size of a raspberry. **5 rovers on Mars;** Sojourner, Spirit, Opportunity, Curiosity & Perseverance



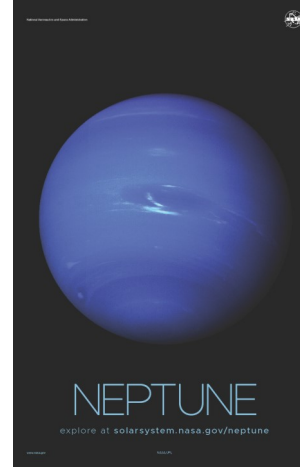
**Jupiter:** 79 moons  
**Distance:** 5.2 AU or 484 million miles.  
**Time it takes sunlight to reach planet:** 42 minutes  
**Length of year:** 11.86 Earth years. Gas giant.  
**Rotation:** 10 hours  
**Length of year:** 12 years  
Jupiter is 11 times wider than Earth & 317 times the mass. Largest planet. If Earth were a nickel, Jupiter would be as big as a basketball.



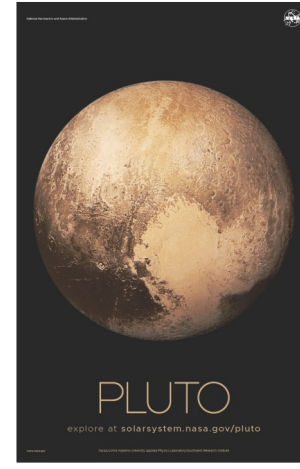
**Saturn:** 82 Moons  
**Distance:** 9.5 AU or 886 million miles  
**Time it takes sunlight to reach planet:** 83 minutes  
**Length of year:** 29.45 Earth years  
9 times wider than Earth. Gas giant.  
**Rotation:** 10.7 hours  
Known for its magnificent rings. 7 rings, gaps and divisions.  
If Earth were the size of a nickel, Saturn would be as big as a volleyball.



**Uranus:** 27 moons  
**Distance:** 19.8 AU or 1.8 billion miles  
**Time it takes sunlight to reach planet:** 164 minutes. Ringed planet  
**Length of year:** 84 Earth years. Ice giant  
**Rotation:** 17 hrs 14 min  
Known as the sideways planet. 4 times larger than Earth.  
If Earth were the size of a nickel, Uranus would be as big as a softball.



**Neptune:** 14 moons  
**Distance:** 30.1 AU or 2.8 billion miles  
**Time it takes sunlight to reach planet:** 248 minutes. Ice giant  
**Length of year:** 165 Earth years.  
**Rotation:** 16 hours  
Neptune is 4 times wider than Earth. Ice giant.  
If Earth were the size of a nickel, Neptune would be as big as a baseball.



**Pluto:** 5 moons  
**Distance:** 39 AU or 3.6 billion miles.  
Dwarf Planet - Kuiper belt  
**Time it takes sunlight to reach planet:** 5.5 hours  
**Length of year:** 248 Earth years.  
1/6 the width of Earth.  
**Rotation:** 153 hours  
If Earth were the size of a nickel, Pluto would be as big as a popcorn kernel.

# Solar System Planetary Walk

## On the Ventnor Boardwalk

Our journey through the Solar System starts on the boardwalk in front of the Ventnor Library. Begin your voyage at the sun and end up at Pluto. The walk is about 1/2 mile long.

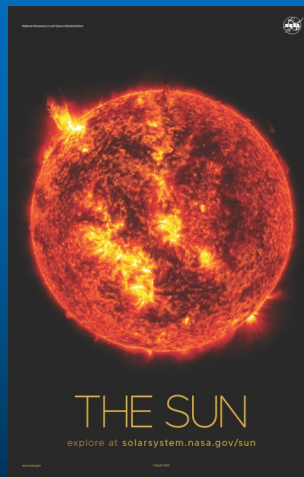


### Scale:

- Sun - 8-1/2 inch ball
- Mercury - pinhead
- Venus - peppercorn
- Earth - peppercorn
- Mars - pinhead
- Ceres - smaller than a pinhead
- Jupiter - chestnut or pecan
- Saturn - hazelnut or acorn
- Uranus - peanut or coffee bean
- Neptune - peanut or coffee bean
- Pluto - smaller than a pinhead

### Key:

AU 'Astronomical Unit' - the mean distance between the Sun & Earth - 93 million miles  
**Distance** = distance from Sun



All images ©NASA

**Sun:** "Sol" yellow dwarf star. The sun is 109 times larger than the Earth.

**Temp** at the core is 27° million Fahrenheit.

**Rotation** period at its equator: 27 days

**Average diameter:** 864,000 miles

If the sun were as tall as a typical front door, the Earth would be the size of a US nickel



## Outdoor Exploration Guide

An educational walk that puts in perspective the size and distance of the planets in our solar system.

With 1 inch = 100,000 miles you will cover the 3.7 billion miles it takes to go from the Sun to Pluto in just 1/2 mile.