Solar System Scavenger Hunt

**Name:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_**

**Directions:** Use the following sites to research the planets. Look at the descriptions and from your research decide which planet matches each description. Place that planet’s name in the blank.

**Mercury Venus Earth Mars Jupiter Saturn Uranus Neptune Pluto**

**Planet Research Websites:**

1. Solar System: <http://solarsystem.nasa.gov/index.htm>
2. Kidsastronomy: <http://kidsastronomy.com/solar_system.htm>
3. Windows to the Universe: <http://www.window2universe.org/our_solar_system/planets.html&edu=elem>

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| PLANET | DESCRIPTION |
|  | The coldest planet. |
|  | The smallest planet. |
|  | Some astronomers do not believe it is a planet. |
|  | Has only an 88 day orbit around the sun. |
|  | Has oceans and land. |
|  | Has the largest moon in the Solar System: Ganymede |
|  | Has a large, red spot thought to be a hurricane. |
|  | Is an outer planet. |
|  | Is so large that all the other planets could fit inside it. |
|  | Rotates on its side. |
|  | Has a blue color. |
|  | Has no moons. |
|  | Has ice caps on its poles. |
|  | Iron in its soil gives it a red color. |
|  | Its moons are Phobos and Deimos. |
|  | Named after the messenger of the gods. |
|  | Can be seen from Earth early in the morning or late in the evening. |
|  | Only the Planet Pluto is smaller. |
|  | Rotates in the opposite direction from the other planets. |
|  | Covered with yellow clouds made of a poison called sulfuric acid. |
|  | Closest planet to Earth. |
|  | Large gas planet. |
|  | Surrounded by 1000 rings made of ice and dust. |
|  | Has at least 18 moons. |
|  | Has a moon named Triton. |
|  | Is sometimes farther away than Pluto |
|  | Atmosphere has very strong winds. |