



Sorting Activity by Liz LaRosa www.middleschoolscience.com 2015

Directions

1. On your desk, you will have a set of planet fact cards.
2. You and your partner will sort the planets according to each category.
3. Write down one fact for each planet within the category.

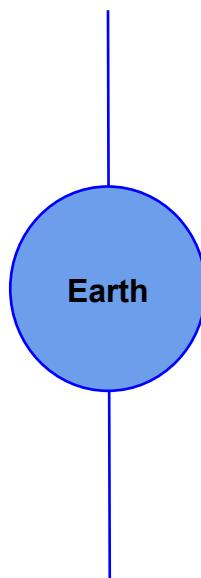
Distance from Sun - Closest to Farthest (millions of Kilometers)

1.	5.
2.	6.
3.	7.
4.	8.

Diameter of Planet - Smallest to Biggest (Kilometers)

1.	5.
2.	6.
3.	7.
4.	8.

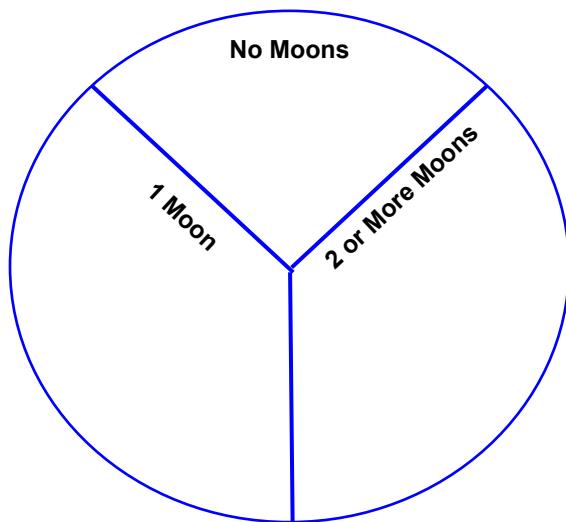
Diameter: Smaller or Bigger than Earth?



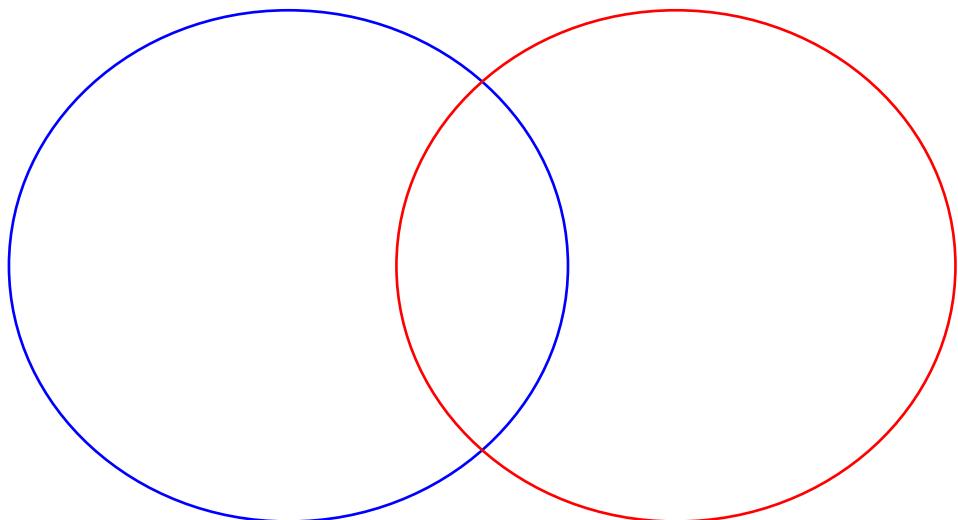
Type of Planet

Rocky Planets	Gas Planets

How many moons?



Rings vs. Moons



Make your own categories - Directions

1. For the next 5 categories, you and your partners will create new ways to sort the planets.
2. Create the first new category with your partner and have it approved before starting.
3. Write the title of your category on the line.
4. Label the headings for each column, how will you sort the planets?
5. Give one fact for each planet used.
6. You must use at least 5 planets to complete your category.
7. When you and your partner are done, have your work checked and then you will be paired up with a new partner.
8. **Rotate** - with your new partner, discuss the categories you have already used and create a **new** category together, one that *neither* one of you has used yet.
9. Follow steps 2-8.
10. You will complete 5 different categories.

Category #1 : _____

Category #2: _____

Category #3: _____

Category #4: _____

Category #5: _____

Challenge: _____

Liz LaRosa www.middleschoolscience.com 2015

Challenge: Can you create 3 categories to sort the planets?

