

Mission: Neptune

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. What type of celestial body is Neptune?

2. Where is it, or which body does it orbit?

3. Copy an important time period and say what it measures.

4. Copy a temperature or a feature of its environment.

Type	Ice giant
Diameter	49,244 km
Mass (Earth = 1)	17.1 Earth masses
Average distance	30.07 AU · 4.50 billion km
Orbital period	164.8 years
Rotation	16 h 6 min
Temperature	≈ -200 °C
Main orbiting bodies	Triton, Nereid and Proteus

5. Choose two figures from the table and explain their units.

6. Explain this comparison in your own words: Sunlight takes more than 4 hours to reach it.

Check and explain

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7. What is its largest moon?

- A. Triton
- B. Titan
- C. Charon
- D. Ganymede

8. Which spacecraft flew past Neptune?

- A. Voyager 2
- B. Magellan
- C. Dawn
- D. Rosetta

9. How long does sunlight take to reach it?

- A. 8 minutes
- B. 40 minutes
- C. More than 4 hours
- D. Two days

10. Which family does Neptune belong to?

- A. Rocky planets
- B. Ice giants
- C. Stars
- D. Dwarf planets

11. Write two units from the table and the quantities they measure.

12. Why is an illustration not always drawn to scale?

13. Give one similarity and one difference compared with Earth.

Investigate like a scientist

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Text to analyse

Neptune is the Solar System's outermost planet. Despite its distance from the Sun, its atmosphere has some of the fastest winds ever measured on a planet. Triton, its largest moon, orbits in the opposite direction to Neptune's rotation. This retrograde orbit suggests it was once a Kuiper Belt object that Neptune captured.

14. Copy one observation or checkable fact from the text.

15. Write a scientific question you would like to investigate.

Writing mini-mission

Imagine a spacecraft studying Neptune. Describe what it observes and what it aims to measure. Write 5 to 7 sentences using at least three scientific terms. Do not invent a solid surface on a gas giant or present a hypothesis as a fact.

Scientific terms used: _____