

Mission: Saturn

Name: _____ Date: _____

1. What type of celestial body is Saturn?

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	Gas giant
Diameter	116,460 km
Mass (Earth = 1)	95.2 Earth masses
Average distance	9.54 AU · 1.43 billion km
Orbital period	29.45 years
Rotation	10 h 42 min
Temperature	≈ -140 °C at cloud level
Main orbiting bodies	Titan, Enceladus, Rhea and Iapetus

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

6. Explain this comparison in your own words: Its diameter is a little over 9 times Earth's.

Check and explain

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7. Which moon ejects plumes from a subsurface ocean?

- A. Enceladus
- B. Phobos
- C. Charon
- D. Europa

8. Which mission studied Saturn for thirteen years?

- A. Cassini-Huygens
- B. Juno
- C. New Horizons
- D. MESSENGER

9. Which geometric pattern appears at its north pole?

- A. A triangle
- B. A hexagon
- C. A square
- D. A solid spiral

10. Is Saturn less dense than water?

- A. Yes, on average
- B. No, three times denser
- C. It has exactly the same density
- D. Impossible to estimate

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

Saturn's rings contain countless pieces of ice and rock. Around it, Titan has a dense atmosphere and Enceladus ejects water from its subsurface ocean into space. Titan has a dense atmosphere. Enceladus ejects plumes of water vapour and ice from a subsurface ocean, making it a major target in the search for habitable environments.

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 Saturn. 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: _____