

Inner vs. Outer Planets

Directions: Use the chart below to compare the inner planets (Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars) with the outer planets (Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune). Write each fact number below the correct column.

- 1. Made mostly of solid rock.
- 2. Includes the planet with lifesupporting water.
- 3. Smaller in size and diameter.
- 4. Much colder and farther from the Sun.
- 5. Includes planets with ring systems.

- Thick atmospheres made mostly of hydrogen and helium.
- 7. Shorter orbits (take less time to travel around the Sun).
- 8. Longer orbits (take many years to travel around the Sun).
- 9. Heavier gravity and larger in size.

10. Includes Mercury, Venus, Earth, and Mars

Inner Planets (Terrestrial)	Outer Planets (Gas & Ice Giants)

Bonus Challenge: Which planet acts as a boundary between the inner and outer planets? _____

