The Solar System

The solar system is made of the sun, the **planet**s, and their moons. The sun is at the center of the **solar system** and the planets **revolve**, or move around, the sun. The path that a planet takes as it moves around the sun is called its **orbit**. As the planets move around the sun, they also **rotate**, or spin, completing one day. As the planet faces the sun, it is day time. When the planet spins away from the sunlight, it is night .

There are 8 planets in our solar system, including Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune. Pluto was once considered a planet, but is now called a "dwarf planet" because of its small size. Many of the planets also have moons which also revolve around them. The solar system is truly amazing!

1. What is the solar system made of?

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2. What is at the center of the solar system?

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3. What is the name for the path a planet takes as it moves around the sun?

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4. When does night occur?

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