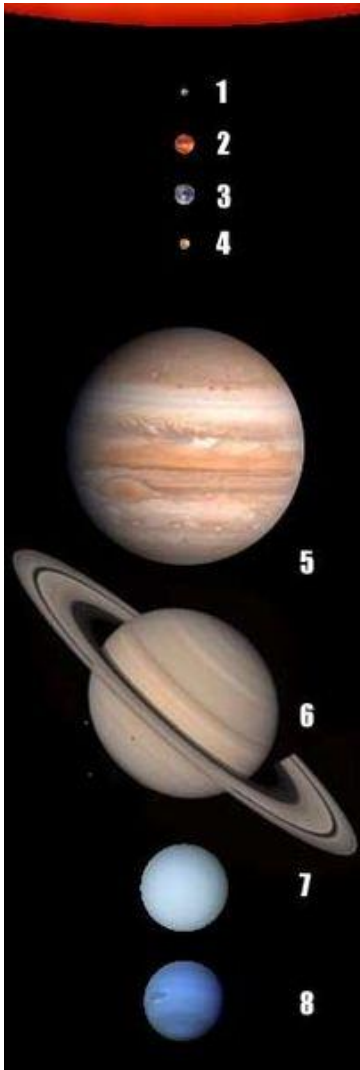


Inner versus Outer Planets

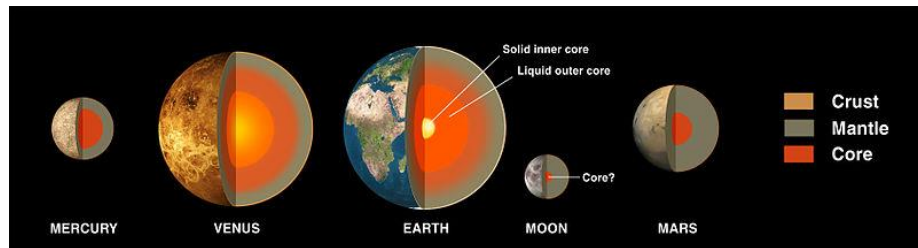


The Inner Planets

- Includes Mercury, Venus, Earth, and Mars.
- These are also called the terrestrial planets.
- They tend to spin slower on their axis.
- They are usually composed of rock, such as nickel and iron.
- These planets tend to have either one or no satellites.

Study Tip

Still looking for a clever way to remember the planets? Try My Very Elegant Moose Just Slurped Up Noodles.



The Outer Planets

- Includes Jupiter, Saturn, and Neptune.
- These are often referred to as the gas giants.
- They take longer to orbit the Sun.
- They are usually composed of more gases, such as hydrogen and helium.
- These planets have numerous moons and rings. The rings are composed of dust and other small particles that encircle the planet on a thin plane.

Concept Check

- What main characteristics are different between inner and outer planets?