

SOLAR SYSTEM

6th Grade

Mr. Barron & Mr. Carson



On this pathfinder page, you should find lots of available resources to provide you with the information you need to complete your projects on the Solar System. These resources will help you find out about the unique characteristics of stars, planets, moons, comets, asteroids, and galaxies. You will also find information about scientists' exploration of space and the objects they have found there. Please keep in mind that the older books on the library shelves do not reflect the updated information regarding Pluto and its recent change in status.

Keywords, Subject Headings, and Dewey Categories

Most of the books in the library that you will use for your project will be found in the Non-Fiction or Reference sections, with Dewey Decimal call numbers. To help you search more easily, use the following guidelines when looking for books on the library shelves.

SUBJECT HEADINGS: Try some of these subject headings or keywords when searching the computer library catalog for books or for internet searching; Space, Solar system, Astronomy, Astronomers, Stars, Planet, Exploration, and Scientists.

CALL NUMBERS: Most of the books that you will need may be found in the 500's (Science) and, more specifically, in the 520's on the library shelves, using the Dewey Decimal system. You may also find books on astronomers and scientists in the 920's or in the Biography (B) section.

Print Materials

These are just a few examples of the many resources on the library shelves that will help you to understand and use the information that you need to learn about the solar system.

GENERAL TITLES

- Oxlade, Chris. Mercury, Mars, and Other Inner Planets and Jupiter, Neptune, and Other Outer Planets. New York, NY: Rosen Publishing, 2008
These books, part of the library's 6 volume Earth and Space series, provide current and comprehensive information about all of the planets, including, Earth,

reflecting the recent changes in how scientist think about our solar system. 523.4
Oxl

- Scott, Elaine. When Is a Planet Not a Planet? New York, NY: Clarion Books, 2007.
This book brings the information about Pluto's status up to date and discusses the characteristics that define a planet and other heavenly bodies, as well as the research and discoveries done by astronomers and scientists in the history of our solar system. There are lots of diagrams and illustrations that help to define the information in this book and it has earned a place on the nominee list for the 2008 Maine Student Book Award. 523.482 Sco
- Stone, Tanya Lee. Blastoff! Venus. New York, NY: Marshall Cavendish, 2002.
There are Blastoff! Books for every planet in the solar system on the library shelves with descriptions of each planet throughout history, spacecraft missions sent to explore the planet, and the physical conditions for each one. 523.4 Sto
- Kerrod, Robin. Universe. New York, NY: DK Publishing, Inc., 2003
An Eyewitness series book with plenty of illustrated information about the secrets of the universe from distant galaxies to our own solar system. 523.1 Ker
- Miles, Lisa and Smith, Alistair. The Usborne Internet-Linked Book of Astronomy and Space. London, England: Usborne Publishing, Ltd., 2001
A great resource book of facts, tables, and maps with detailed information about the solar system and night sky, complete with descriptions of recommended web sites that will provide more information for those who wish to delve further. 521.3 Mil
- Watters, Thomas. Planets: A Smithsonian Guide. New York, NY: MacMillan, 1995.
Comprehensive details on all the planets and planetary missions with comparison components are given in this book with plenty of illustrations and photographs, telling the complete story of our solar system. 523.4 Wat
- Somerville, Barbara. Nicolaus Copernicus. Minneapolis, MN: Compass Point Books, 2005.
A complete biography of Nicolaus Copernicus, the father of astronomy, complete with timelines, additional resources, and source notes. B Cop
- Datnow, Claire. Edwin Hubble: Discoverer of Galaxies. Berkley Heights, NJ: Enslow Publishers, Inc., 1997
An easy-to-read biography of one of America's greatest astronomers. Chapter notes, further reading, and web addresses for more information are included. B Hub

REFERENCE BOOKS:

- Couper, Heather and Henbest, Nigel. DK Space Encyclopedia. New York, NY: Dorling Kindersley, 1999.
A comprehensive guide to Astronomy and Space Travel with lots of information on stars, galaxies, comets, asteroids, and the major planets. 520 Cou REF
- Saari, Peggy and Allison, Stephen, eds. Scientists: The Lives and Works of 150 Scientists. USA: UXL, 1996.
5 Volumes with detailed information on 8 noteworthy scientists in the Astronomy and Space field. 509.2 Saa REF
- Liebenson, Maureen. The World Book Encyclopedia of Science: Astronomy. Chicago, Ill: World Book, Inc., 1997.
Information on the beginnings of astronomy, stars, and planets are provided in a well organized format. 520 Lie REF
- Kerrod, Robin. Macmillan Encyclopedia of Science: Vol. 2, The Heavens. New York, NY: MacMillan Reference USA, 1997.
Easy-to-read reference material about the planets, moons, and stars of the solar system. 503 Ker REF

PERIODICALS

The library has current and back issue copies of several magazines that have articles of varied information on many different aspects of the solar system. They are: Odyssey, Discover, Newsweek, Time, and National Geographic.

You can peruse the print copies of these periodicals in the library. Full text articles of over 460 other magazines are also available online using Marvel! (Maine's Virtual Library). Marvel! can be accessed with a direct link through the MJHS library website and then utilized by conducting a search with the Middle Search Plus or MAS Ultra-School Plus resources. You can search most easily using the keyword, subject, or publication buttons at the top of the EBSCO HOST Advanced Search page or simply type in a keyword in the Find: box. Be sure to check the full text box before clicking on SEARCH.

Here are two examples of current articles that can be found in back issues of magazines in the library.

- Fussman, Cal. "The Planet Finder." Discover, May 2006: pp. 38-45.
Astronomer Mike Brown has discovered new objects at the far edges of the solar system which may offer more clues about the origins of the solar system. One of the objects found is Xena which is larger than Pluto.
- Adler, Jerry. "Of Cosmic Proportions." Newsweek, September 4, 2006: pp.44-50.

The International Astronomical Union decides that Pluto is no longer a planet. Some of the reasons why are discussed in this article with details about planets and dwarf planets.

Internet Resources

SPECIFIC WEBSITES

- **All About the Planets**
Planet stories, images, videos, and information about each of the planets in our solar system.
<http://www.space.com/planets/>
- **The 8 Planets: A Multimedia Tour of the Solar System**
One star, eight planets, and more.
<http://seds.lpl.arizona.edu/billa/tnp/>
- **Star Child: A Learning Center for Young Astronomers**
Movies, information, quizzes, and definitions of the details of space and its objects.
<http://starchild.gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/StarChild/StarChild.html>
- **Views of the Solar System.**
An extensive site with information about planets, comets, asteroids, galaxies, the history of space exploration, and people (scientists!) in Astronomy.
<http://www.solarviews.com/>
- **Windows to the Universe: Our Solar System**
Find out about solar system formation, and facts about the bodies in the solar system. News stories and archives of images too.
http://www.windows.ucar.edu/cgi-bin/tour_test_milagro1/link=/our_solar_system/solar_system.html&edu=high
- **Chandra X-ray Observatory**
An online web guide of the solar system, stars, black holes, galaxies, and quasars with images and multi-media resources.
http://chandra.harvard.edu/xray_sources/
- **Stanford Solar Center**
An informative and interactive website designed to help students explore earth's closest star.
<http://solar-center.stanford.edu/>

ONLINE DIRECTORIES

- **Librarians' Internet Index**

A directory of reliable high-quality websites selected and organized by a team of librarians to help you find internet information on whatever topic you're exploring.

<http://lii.org/>

- **Yahoo! Search Directory**

A well organized that allows you to search features and editor's picks in addition to your usual web searches.

<http://search.yahoo.com/dir>

- **Cable in the Classroom**

A site rich with video and web resources, including air dates and times of current programming on a multitude of subjects, including "space".

<http://www.ciconline.org/default.htm>

SEARCH ENGINES

- **Kid's Click**

Kids Click! Web search for kids by librarians. Science (lots of resources for "space", Reference, arts, entertainment, sports, health, and the list goes on and on...

<http://www.kidsclick.org/>

- **Dogpile**

Several search engines working as one to help you find information, with specific search prompts offered in a sidebar.

<http://www.dogpile.com/>

- **Ask.com**

A search engine that also has a toolbar offering ways to expand or narrow your search or search for related items.

<http://www.ask.com/>

ONLINE PERIODICAL ARTICLES

Retrieved through Marvel! and found searching the Middle Search Plus and MAS Ultra-School Plus resources there. You can access Marvel! through the library website or go to

<http://libraries.maine.edu/mainedatabases/>

- New World Order. (cover story) Current Events, 9/15/2006, Vol. 106 Issue 2, p1-3, 3p; Reading Level (Lexile): 980; (AN 22288269)

The world's top astronomers voted on August 24, 2006 to declassify Pluto as a planet. There is now a new class of "dwarf planets."

- Mercury crosses the Sun. By: Bakich, Michael E.. **Astronomy**, Nov2006, Vol. 34 Issue 11, p80-81, 2p, 1 diagram, 1 map, 1c; Reading Level (Lexile): 910; (AN 22523822)
The planet, Mercury, will cross the sun in November 2006 in what is called a solar transit. Information about Mercury and the transit is included here with a diagram.

LIBRARY CATALOG

You can access the MJHS school library catalog online to see what is currently available on the shelves. You can use this InfoCentre catalog program by directly linking to <http://169.244.64.155/InfoCentre/Library.do> from any computer.

You can also access the MJHS library catalog through the MJHS Library website at <http://teacherweb.com/ME/MarshwoodJuniorHighSchool/MJHSLibrary/> OR through the school website at <http://www.msad35.net/>.

The online library catalog for Marshwood High School is also available by direct link at <http://169.244.66.60/InfoCentre/Library.do>

AUDIO/VISUAL

- Astronomers Offer New Vision of the Solar System. Online News Hour, August 16, 2006: Retrieved through the Maine Public Broadcasting Network.
http://www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/science/july-dec06/solarsystem_08-16.html
An online video with the debate about whether Pluto should keep its classification as a planet is aired.
- Deep Impact. Online News Hour, July 4, 2005: Retrieved through the Maine Public Broadcasting Network.
http://www.pbs.org/newshour/bb/science/july-dec05/comet_7-4.html#
This online video discusses a NASA probe that crashed into a comet, helping scientists to learn more about the formation of the solar system.
- Journey Through The Solar System. NASA, 1989. MJHS Library. 13 programs-30 minutes each.
This videocassette recording promotes a better understanding of our solar system with information provided by space probes and satellites.
- **Cable in the Classroom**
A website rich with video and web resources, including air dates and times of current programming on a multitude of subjects, including “space” and ‘solar system.’’
<http://www.ciconline.org/default.htm>

Space Experts

- **National Aeronautics and Space Administration**

Public Communications and
Inquiries Management Office
NASA Headquarters
Suite 1M32

Washington, DC 20546-0001

(202) 358-0001 (Office)

(202) 358-3469 (Fax)

public-inquiries@hq.nasa.gov

+ [Ask NASA](#)

Please allow 10-15 business days for processing. For email inquiries, be sure to include a subject and do not include any attachments.

Our nation's experts have a NASA page for students 5-8

<http://www.nasa.gov/audience/forstudents/5-8/features/index.html>

- **IAU - International Astronomical Union**

98bis Bd Arago, FR

75014 Paris, FRANCE

Phone +33 (1) 43 25 83 58

Fax +33 (1) 43 25 26 16

<http://www.iau.org/>

- **European Space Agency**

ESA's address

European Space Agency

8-10 rue Mario Nikis

75738 Paris, Cedex 15, France

Communication Department

Tel: + 33 1 5369 7155

Fax: + 33 1 5369 7690

<http://www.esa.int/esaCP/index.html>

Community Resources

Don't forget about the resources that can be found in your community at the town libraries. The librarians there are more than happy to help you with information needed for school projects.

- **South Berwick Town Library**

37 Portland Street
South Berwick, ME 03908
207 384-3308
<http://www.south-berwick.lib.me.us/>

- **William Fogg Library**

PO Box 359
Old Road
Eliot, ME 03903
207 439-9437
<http://www.william-fogg.lib.me.us/>