

BILL NYE PLANETS – ANSWER KEY

1. How many planets do we have today?

We have 8 planets (9 if you include Pluto).

2. What is the first planet that is made up of heavy metals in our solar system called?

The first planet is Mercury.

3. What planet is the hottest in our solar system?

The hottest planet is Venus.

4. What planet has water and an atmosphere?

Earth has water and an atmosphere.

5. What planet is big, red and dead?

Mars is big, red and dead.

6. What planet is the largest and is mostly a big ball of gas?

Jupiter is the largest.

7. What planet has rings and 18 moons?

Saturn has rings and 18 moons.

8. What planet is blue and has very thin newly discovered rings?

Uranus is blue and has very thin newly discovered rings.

9. What planet is extremely cold and farthest from the sun?

Neptune is extremely cold.

10. What planet is considered no longer a planet?

Pluto is no longer considered a planet.

11. If a rocket left Pluto traveling 1000 mph, how long would it take it to reach the Sun?

It would take 450 years to reach the sun.

12. How many theories are there about how the moon was formed?

There are 4 theories about how the moon was formed.

13. What type of pattern does the Earth's orbit take around the Sun?

The Earth's orbits the sun in the shape of an ellipse.

14. What happens to the Earth's orbit speed as it gets closer to the Sun?

It speeds up.

15. What are asteroids?

Asteroids are small planets between Mars and Jupiter that orbit the sun.

16. Which direction do planets/space particles rotate around the sun?

Planets/space particles rotate around the sun counter clockwise.

17. What is considered the glue that holds our Solar System together?

Gravity is the glue that holds our solar system together.

18. How many days does it take Mercury to orbit around the Sun?

It takes Mercury 88 days to orbit the Sun.

19. How long does it take Pluto to orbit around the Sun?

It takes Pluto 248 years to orbit the sun.

20. In which direction does the Sun rotate?

The sun rotates in a counter clockwise direction.