**Astronomy**

**Fall 2021**

**Unit 2 The Solar System Part 1**

**I’ve Never Heard of It**

**Purpose**: This is an individual research project. Students will investigate a relatively unknown or unpopular object that is in our solar system Students will research various properties of the object and create a technical report. The technical report will be submitted to by Thursday, August 26, 2021 by 8:00 AM.

**Instructions**

1. You will use reputable and reliable web sources to gather information. Use content from the websites listed below or other sites you find.

Reputable websites

[www.nasa.gov](http://www.nasa.gov) [www.hubblesite.org](http://www.hubblesite.org) [www.heavens-above.com](http://www.heavens-above.com)

[www.space.com](http://www.space.com) [www.skyandtelescope.com](http://www.skyandtelescope.com) [www.esa.int](http://www.esa.int)

[www.jpl.nasa.gov](http://www.jpl.nasa.gov) [www.universetoday.com](http://www.universetoday.com)

2. You will create a photo gallery of the object. Copy and paste photographs or diagrams of your object into the photo gallery page. When you paste the photographs, use the “paste special” option and format the photos as bitmap, bitmap independent, jpeg, or png. Do not paste as html format.

3. Enter the important and required information about your object into the technical report diagram. Most information only requires a few words or numbers. The overview must be written as a paragraph using complete sentences.

4. The source of all photographs and all technical information must be cited in the Works Cited section. You are gathering information from places that you do not own or have created. Therefore, you are required to give credit to the source of the information.

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Name: |  | Date: |  |

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|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| The name of my object is: |  |
| What is the meaning of the name? Why was it named that? |  |
| What type of object is it? |  |
| Where is my object located? |  |
| In which year was it discovered or first observed? |  |
| What is the name of the person or persons that discovered it? List their affiliation—which university or agency did they work for. |  |
| What is the mass of the object? Report in kg. |  |
| What is the diameter or size of the object? Report in km. |  |
| What is the surface temperature of the object? If the object has day-night cycles, provide the avg. daytime and nighttime temperature. |  |
| If the object is a moon, around which planet does it orbit? |  |
| If the object is a moon, how far away from the planet does it orbit? Report in km. |  |
| If the object is a moon, what is the orbital period around its planet? Report in days or Earth years. |  |
| If the object orbits the Sun, what is the orbital period of the object around the sun? Report in days or Earth years. |  |
| What is the object’s rotation period? The time to rotate once. |  |
| What is the color or colors of the object? |  |
| List important surface features and landforms on the object like mountains, valleys, volcanoes, geysers, impact craters, rifts, oceans, ice caps…If they have formal names, please name them. |  |
| In my opinion, what is the one most important thing about this object that makes it unique. Explain why. |  |
| Summary. Write a short paragraph (5-6 complete sentences) that discusses and describes the most important features and conditions of the object, AND compare why these are similar or different from those features and conditions on Earth. |
|  |
| Works cited. Paste the URL (web addresses) of your sources. |
|  |

**Photo Gallery**

Include photographs of the entire object and close-up photographs of the important features.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Caption: | Caption: |
|  |  |
| Caption | Caption: |
|  |  |