



NSF GK-12 Graduate Fellows Program

Award # DGE-0139171

University of North Carolina at Wilmington

Solar System Web Search

by

Michael Slattery, Dept. of Earth Sciences

Purpose: To introduce students to web search, as well as have the students practice navigating an informational site to learn more information about the solar system. It is meant to take up very little time (max 20 mins.). Be sure this website is accessible from your school before attempting this search.

Materials: Computer lab with internet access.

Lets see what you can discover about our amazing solar system. To complete this webquest you'll need to start by going to the following website:

www.nineplanets.org

If you scroll down you will see an outline set up that looks like this:

[Solar System Overview](#)

[The Sun](#)

[Mercury](#)

[Venus](#)

[Earth](#)

[The Moon](#)

[Mars](#)

[Phobos](#)

[Deimos](#)

[Jupiter](#)

[Metis](#), [Adrastea](#), [Amalthea](#) and [Thebe](#)

[Io](#)

[Europa](#)

[Ganymede](#)

[Callisto](#)

[Leda](#), [Himalia](#), [Lysithea](#), [Elara](#), [Ananke](#), [Carme](#), [Pasiphae](#) and [Sinope](#)

[Recently discovered moons](#)

[Saturn](#)

[Pan](#) and [Atlas](#)

[Prometheus](#) and [Pandora](#)

[Epimetheus](#)

[Janus](#)

[Mimas](#)

[Enceladus](#)

[Tethys](#), [Telesto](#) and [Calypso](#)

[Dione](#) and [Helene](#)

[Rhea](#)

[Titan](#)

[Hyperion](#)

[Iapetus](#)

[Phoebe](#)

[Recently discovered satellites](#)

[Uranus](#)

[Cordelia](#), [Ophelia](#), [Bianca](#), [Cressida](#), [Desdemona](#), [Juliet](#), [Portia](#), [Rosalind](#), [Belinda](#) and [Puck](#)

[Miranda](#)

[Ariel](#)

[Umbriel](#)

[Titania](#)

[Oberon](#)

[Caliban](#), [Sycorax](#), [Prospero](#), [Setebos](#), [Stephano](#), and [Trinculo](#)

[Neptune](#)

[Naiad](#), [Thalassa](#), [Despina](#) and [Galatea](#)

[Larissa](#)

[Proteus](#)

[Triton](#)

[Nereid](#)

[Pluto](#) and [Charon](#)

You will need this information and these links to answer the following questions regarding our solar system. For some of the questions you don't even have to click on any of the links.

1. Order the planets by the number of moons they have starting with the planet that has the most and ending with the planet(s) having the least (or none). Put the number of moons next to the planets name in your list.
2. What is the largest object in our solar system? How big is it? What's the next biggest object? How many times bigger is the biggest to the next biggest (hint: you'll have to divide)?
3. What are the majority of the planets named after?
4. Which planet is considered earth's sister planet? (Hint: it must be one of the inner 4 planets)
5. Which planet has the Great Red Spot (GRS)? (Hint: it is beyond earth)
3. What is Charon?