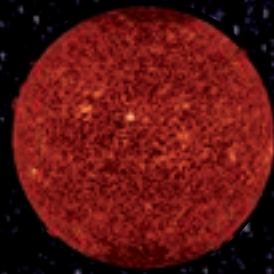


IF THE SUN WERE THE SIZE OF A PEA



1.4 million
kilometres



4 millimetres

Imagine the Sun is the **size of a small pea** and is placed at the base of the Treasure House tower.

As you walk up the steps imagine you are in a spaceship spiraling out **from the Sun** and towards the distant dark edge of the Solar System.

If the Sun is the size of a pea,
how many peas does it take
to reach each planet?



NEXT STOP MERCURY

MERCURY



4,879 kilometres

Mercury is **58 million kilometres** from the Sun and the smallest planet in the Solar System, just a bit bigger than our moon.

Light takes **3.2 minutes** to travel from the Sun to Mercury.

Visit **solarsystem.nasa.gov** for more **Mercury** facts.



NEXT STOP VENUS

VENUS



12,000 kilometres

Venus is almost **109 million kilometres** from the Sun and a little smaller than Earth at **12,000 kilometres** in diameter.

Light takes **6 minutes** to travel from the Sun to Venus.

Visit **solarsystem.nasa.gov** for more **Venus** facts.

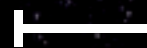


NEXT STOP EARTH

EARTH (AND THE MOON)



12,742 kilometres



3,474 kilometres

Earth is nearly **150 million kilometres**
from the Sun.

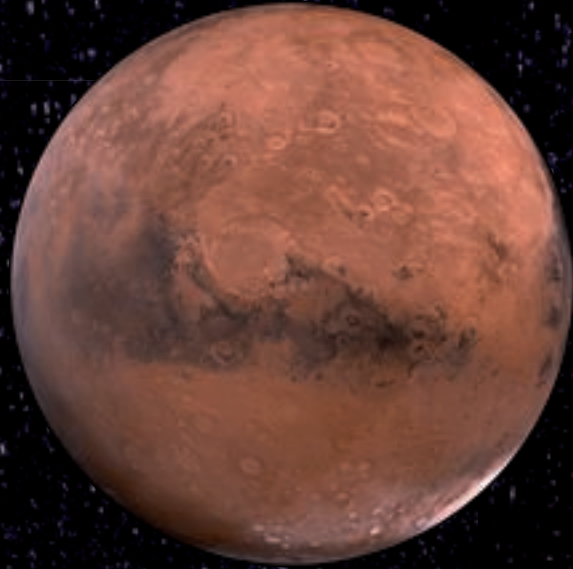
It takes light almost **8½ minutes** to travel
from the Sun to the Earth.

Visit **solarsystem.nasa.gov**
for more **Earth** facts.



NEXT STOP MARS

MARS



6,778 kilometres

Mars is around **228 million kilometres** from the Sun which means it takes light almost **13 minutes** to arrive from it.

We are just over three steps up the tower and have already visited Mercury, Venus, Earth and Mars. As we move further out from the Sun and leave the inner Solar System the distances rapidly become much bigger.

Visit **solarsystem.nasa.gov** for more **Mars** facts.



NEXT STOP JUPITER

JUPITER



140,000 kilometres

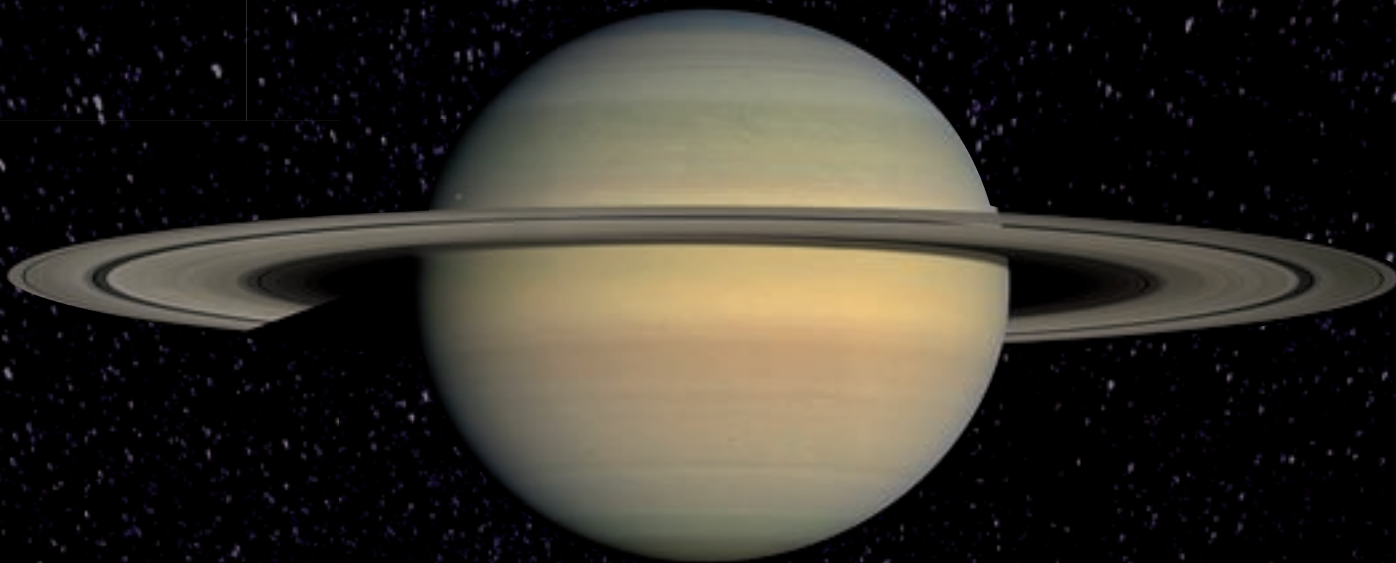
Jupiter is **778 million kilometres** from the Sun and the largest planet in our Solar System at **140,000 km** diameter. Light takes more than **43 minutes** to reach Jupiter from the Sun.

Visit **solarsystem.nasa.gov** for more **Jupiter** facts.



NEXT STOP SATURN

SATURN



120,536 kilometres

Saturn is **1.427 billion kilometres** from the Sun, nearly twice as far as Jupiter. Saturn is another gas giant and perhaps the most spectacular of all the planets (after Earth of course).

It takes **79 minutes** for light to travel to Saturn from the Sun.

Visit **solarsystem.nasa.gov** for more **Saturn** facts.



NEXT STOP
URANUS (EVENTUALLY)

URANUS



51,118 kilometres

The distances in the outer Solar System are beginning to be astronomical. Uranus is a distant **2.9 billion kilometres** from the Sun.

Uranus is **20 times further** from the Sun than Earth and it takes light **2 hours and 40 minutes** to arrive.

Visit **solarsystem.nasa.gov** for more **Uranus** facts.



NEXT STOP
NEPTUNE (FINALLY)

NEPTUNE



49,528 kilometres

Neptune is the eighth and farthest planet from the Sun. We are now a massive **4.5 billion kilometres** away from the Sun, far out in the Solar System but still in the grip of the Sun's gravity.

It takes light **4.1 hours** to get here from the Sun.

Visit **solarsystem.nasa.gov** for more **Neptune** facts.



WELL DONE!

You've made it to the outer edge of the Solar System, where do you want to go next?
Pick up a planet sticker at Tourist Information

NEXT STOPS



Voyager 1

17,143 

Nearest Star

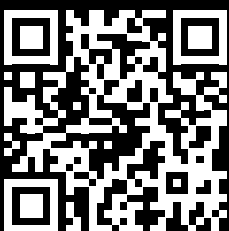
2.7m 



Andromeda Galaxy

A lot of 

In fact, all the world's pea harvest for 100 years! But it's visible from Beverley on a good night.

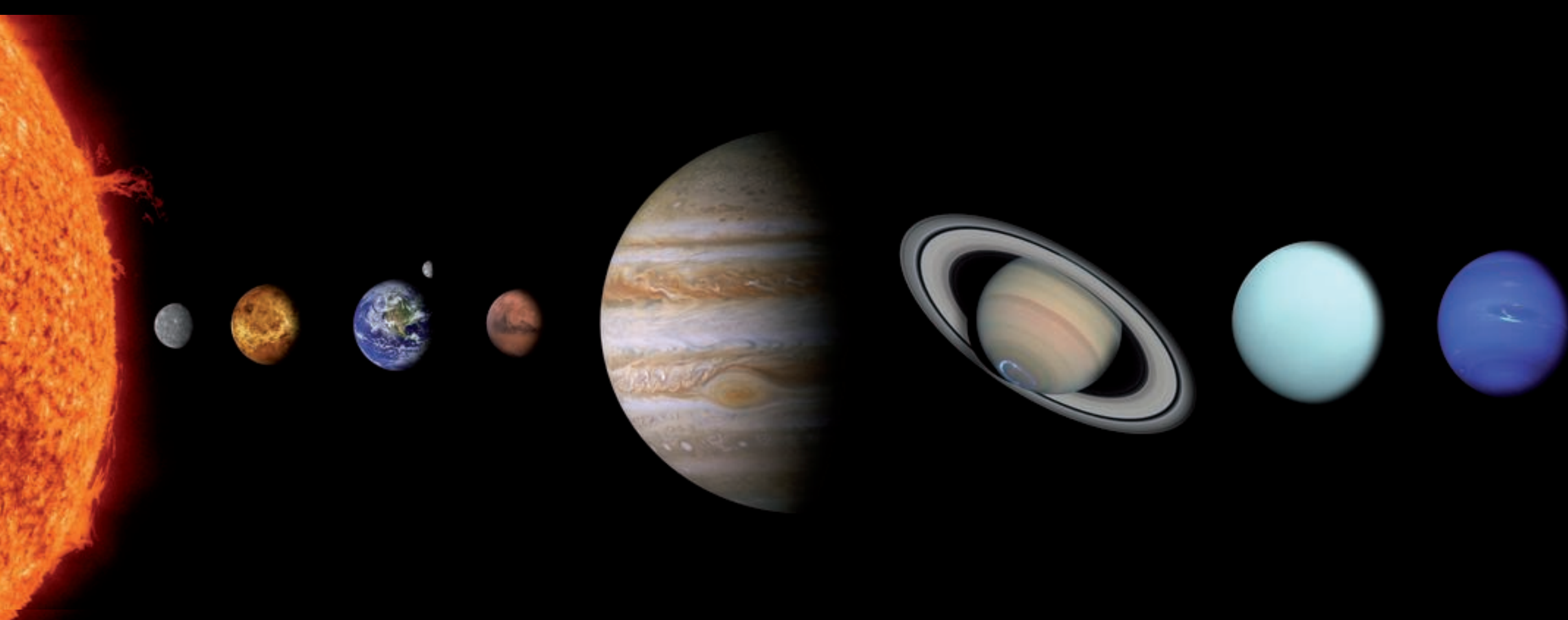


For more planet facts visit
solarsystem.nasa.gov

IF THE SUN WERE THE SIZE OF A PEA.

Explore the **Solar System** by climbing the Treasure House tower.

Look out for the signs as you go.



The **eight planets** of our Solar System are held in the grip of the Sun's gravity, forced to orbit yearly around the Sun.

Different planets are at different distances to the Sun and their year can be as short as Mercury's **88 days** or as long as Neptune's **165 years**.

As you travel from the Sun the distances between the planets grow larger and larger. It takes light over **four hours** to travel from the Sun to the furthest planet Neptune. And that light will carry on travelling, perhaps reaching the end of the universe before the universe ends...

Take a look at the
East Riding Astronomers
exhibition near the library



eastridingastronomers.com