

Kentucky Class Notes

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AST 191 Ferland
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Test #1

Astronomy 191

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- The Solar System
- The Sun
 - It is a glowing ball of gas that emits light because of the heat that is caused by nuclear reactions.
 - The sun is made up of 99.98% gas.
 - The solar system is held together by the gravity caused by the sun's mass.
- The Planets
 - Planets orbit around the sun and reflect the light emitted from it.
 - Planets are much smaller than the sun.
- A Scale Model
 - If the size of the Earth was similar to a basketball, then the Earth's moon would be about the size of a baseball eight yards away.
 - If the sun was the size of a basketball court, it would be about two miles away from the basketball sized Earth.
 - The most distant planet from the sun, Neptune, would be about 100 miles away in Louisville.
 - The closest planet to Earth would be a million miles away.

Planets of the Solar System