Name:

Saturn

By Cynthia Sherwood

f you don't count Earth, the most beautiful planet in our solar system may be Saturn. Saturn has seven thin rings that surround its middle but don't actually touch it. The rings are made of billions of pieces of ice and can only be seen with a telescope. hurricane is nothing compared to the winds on Saturn. Its strongest winds blow at more than 1,000 miles per hour (1,600 kilometers per hour)! Saturn is also quite cold because it's so far from the sun. The temperature is about 285 degrees below zero Fahrenheit (minus 176 Celsius)

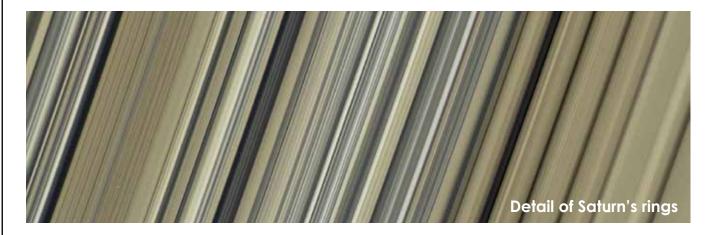


Preview

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core of gas. Saturn is considered one of the four "gas giant" planets.

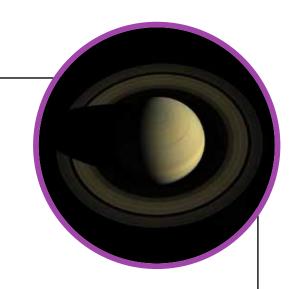
If you've ever been through a hurricane, you know what extremely strong winds are like. But even a you'd have to wait a long time for your birthday to arrive. The length of a Saturn year is 29.5 Earth years, because that's how long it takes Saturn to revolve around the sun.



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1. Write **yes** or **no** to answer each question.

Can you see Saturn's rings without a telescope? ______

Can you see Saturn without a telescope? _____

Is Saturn the third planet from the sun?



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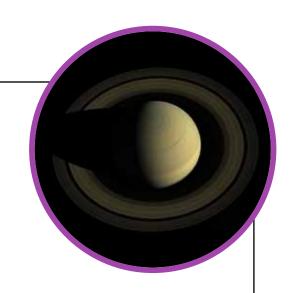
- 4. Which would not be a good nickname for Saturn?
 - **a.** the "Ringed Planet"
- **b.** the "Windy Planet"
- **c.** the "Beautiful Gas Planet" **d.** the "Blue-Green Planet"

Challenge: One Saturn year equals 29.5 Earth years. If you were three years old on Saturn, how old would you be on Earth? Use your math skills!

ANSWER KEY

Saturn

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1. Write yes or no to answer each question.

Can you see Saturn's rings without a telescope? _____no

Can you see Saturn without a telescope? _____yes ____

Is Saturn the third planet from the sun? _____no



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a hot, solid core of rocky material

- **4.** Which would not be a good nickname for Saturn?
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- c. the "Beautiful Gas Planet"
- d. the "Blue-Green Planet"

Challenge: One Saturn year equals 29.5 Earth years. If you were three years old on Saturn, how old would you be on Earth? Use your math skills!

 $29.5 \times 3 = 88.5$ Earth years