

**A. What happened in the story, The Cold Planet? Put these sentences in the right order.**

A. One day she put the wrong batteries in her torch.	
B. Billy said he would help Neila.	
C. Neila is an alien who lives on planet Fliptune.	1
D. Now Neila and her friends can sit in the sun and eat ice cream.	
E. Billy and his dog, Splodge, flew to Fliptune.	
F. Billy and Splodge went back to Earth.	
G. Billy's mirror sent sunshine to the planet Fliptune.	

**B. Invent your own planet!**

Close your eyes and imagine a planet. Write notes about it and then draw a picture.

What is the name of your planet?

Where is it in the universe?

What's it like?  
(big, small, light, dark, cold, hot, colour?)

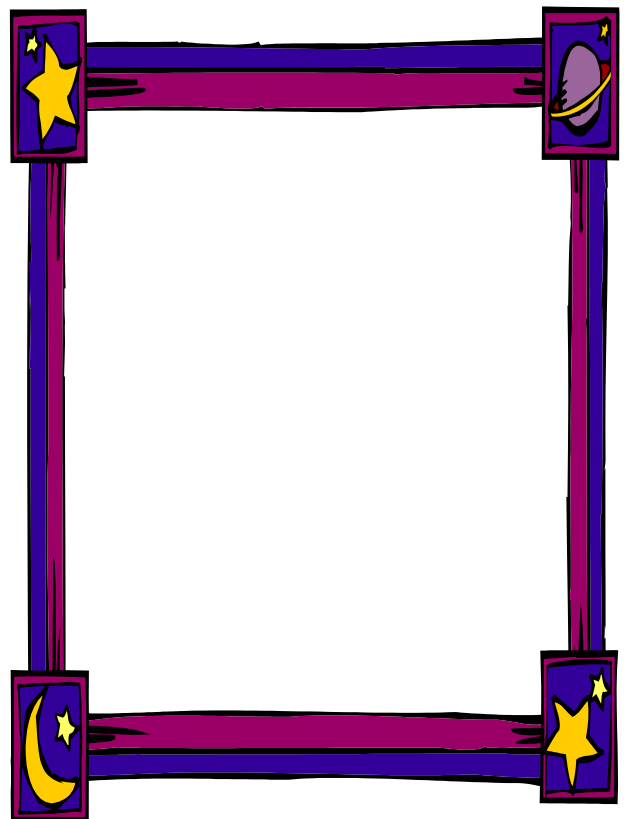
What's it made of?  
(gases, rocks, ice cream, cheese?)

Does it have Moons or rings or anything special?

What's on the planet? (rocks, buildings, craters?)

Who lives on the planet?  
(aliens, monsters, people?)

Describe the creatures who live on the planet!!  
 What colour are they?  
 How many noses, eyes, arms, legs?



Answers – story order: C; A; E; B; F; G; D

## The Cold Planet

Thousands of miles from Earth, on the far side of the universe, is a small planet. It is dark and cold, far from the sun, behind a much bigger planet. Little green aliens live there. They use torches to see.

One day, a young alien, Neila, put the wrong batteries in her torch. Suddenly there was a dazzling beam of light. It went up into the sky, around the Sun, and hit planet Earth.

The light hit a boy called Billy and his dog, Splodge. Neila quickly turned the torch off, but the pair were sucked up by the light. They flew through space and landed near Neila.

“Hello”, said Billy. Neila waved.

“Wow”, said Billy. “Everything’s made of ice cream!” Splodge licked his paw. “The ice cream never melts, and nobody eats it. It’s too cold here,” said Neila.

“It will in my tummy,” thought Splodge.

Neila looked sad. “Can you help us?” she said. “We need sunshine to make things grow.”

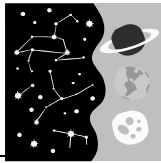
“No problem,” said Billy. “Can you get us home? I have an idea.”

“Wait there!” said Neila.

She got her torch, put the wrong batteries in again. ZOOOOOOOOOM!  
Billy and Splodge were speeding back to Earth.

Billy pointed his bedroom mirror between the sun and Fliptune. The sun’s rays bounced off the mirror and up onto Neila’s planet.

Thanks to Billy, Fliptune is not cold any more. Splodge moves the mirror each day to keep the sun shining there. Now, Neila and her friends sit in the sun and enjoy all that free ice cream.



**Match the planets to their descriptions!!**

For help see <http://kidsf9.net.uk/flash/index.html>

And <http://kids.nineplanets.org/index.html>

- Mercury**
- Venus**
- Earth**
- Mars**
- Jupiter**
- Saturn**
- Uranus**
- Neptune**
- Pluto**

This is the fourth planet from the Sun. It is cold and lifeless with permanent ice caps. It is often called the 'Red planet'. The first spacecraft (Mariner 4) landed on it in 1965.

This is the only planet supporting life and has the most varied surface. It is 4.6 billion years old. It is the densest body in the Solar System. It has one Moon.

This is the largest planet. It is more than twice as massive as all the other planets combined! It is a giant gas planet and the fifth planet from the Sun. It has a special feature called 'the Great red Spot'.

This is a small, rocky planet with layers of yellow clouds made of sulphuric acid. It is very hot (about 400°C) and extremely windy. It is the second planet from the Sun.

This is the second largest planet. It has beautiful rings made of ice which can be seen from Earth. Its name is the root of the English word 'Saturday'.

This is the only planet not visited by a spacecraft. It is the smallest and most mysterious planet which is the farthest away from the Sun. It has one moon called 'Charon'.

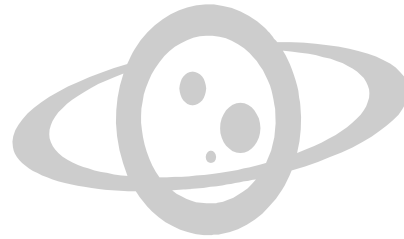
This is a small rocky planet which is the closest to the Sun. It has an extreme temperature range. Some scientists think volcanoes are active on this planet.

This planet was visited by the spacecraft Voyager 2 in 1986. It is a blue-green colour and has a faint ring system. It spins differently to other planets.

This is the eighth planet from the Sun and is a giant gas planet with eight moons – seven small ones and one large one called 'Triton'.

This is the second largest planet. It has beautiful rings made of ice which can be seen from Earth. Its name is the root of the English word 'Saturday'.

**Saturn**



This is the fourth planet from the Sun. It is cold and lifeless with permanent ice caps. It is often called the 'Red planet'. The first spacecraft (Mariner 4) landed on it in 1965.

**Mars**

This is the only planet not visited by a spacecraft. It is the smallest and most mysterious planet which is the farthest away from the Sun. It has one moon called 'Charon'.

**Pluto**

This is the only planet supporting life and has the most varied surface. It is 4.6 billion years old. It is the densest body in the Solar System. It has one Moon.

**Earth**

This is a small rocky planet which is the closest to the Sun. It has an extreme temperature range. Some scientists think volcanoes are active on this planet.

**Mercury**

This is the largest planet. It is more than twice as massive as all the other planets combined! It is a giant gas planet and the fifth planet from the Sun. It has a special feature called 'the Great red Spot'.

**Jupiter**

This planet was visited by the spacecraft Voyager 2 in 1986. It is a blue-green colour and has a faint ring system. It spins differently to other planets.

**Uranus**

This is a small, rocky planet with layers of yellow clouds made of sulphuric acid. It is very hot (about 400°C) and extremely windy. It is the second planet from the Sun.

**Venus**

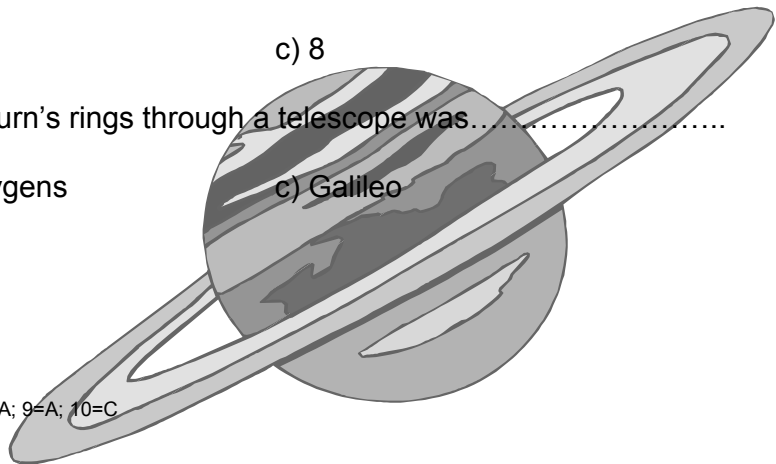
This is the eighth planet from the Sun and is a giant gas planet with eight moons – seven small ones and one large one called 'Triton'.

**Neptune**



**What do you know about the planet Saturn? Try this quiz!**

1. Saturn is the ..... planet from the Sun.  
a) fifth                      b) sixth                      c) seventh
2. The distance from the Sun to Saturn is ..... kilometres.  
a) 2.6 billion              b) 1.9 billion              c) 1.4 billion
3. Saturn's atmosphere consists mainly of.....  
a) hydrogen and helium      b) oxygen and helium      c) carbon dioxide
4. Saturn makes one complete orbit of the Sun every ..... years.  
a) 5.67                      b) 29.46                      c) 53.29
5. Saturn's rings are made of .....  
a) ice and dust              b) small rocks              c) different gases
6. Saturn is a very windy planet. The winds there can reach ..... kilometres per hour.  
a) 1000                      b) 1800                      c) 2500
7. Saturn is much bigger than Earth. In fact its mass is ..... times as big!  
a) 50                      b) 75                      c) 95
8. The name 'Saturn' comes from the Roman God of .....  
a) agriculture              b) light                      c) the sea
9. Saturn has many satellites, including ..... moons.  
a) 30                      b) 21                      c) 8
10. The first person to see Saturn's rings through a telescope was.....  
a) Cassini                      b) Huygens                      c) Galileo



Answers: 1=B; 2=C; 3=A; 4=B; 5=A; 6=B; 7=C; 8=A; 9=A; 10=C