

Understanding the solar system



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Overview

The Solar System consists of the Sun and the objects that orbit it. The name comes from Sōl, the Latin name for the Sun. It was formed when a dense region of a molecular cloud collapsed, creating the Sun and a protoplanetary disk from which the orbiting bodies assembled. The fusion of hydrogen into helium inside the Sun's core releases energy, which is primarily emitted through its outer atmosphere. This creates a decreasing temperature as distance from the Sun increases.



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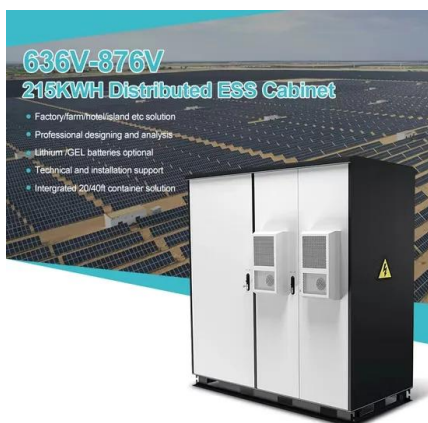
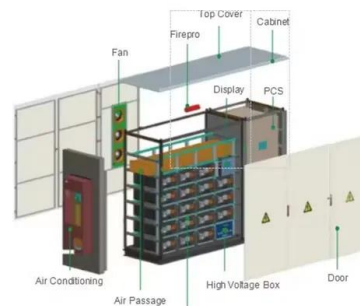


Our Solar System: A Tour of All the Planets

The solar system is our cosmic neighborhood, a sprawling and dynamic family of celestial bodies orbiting a single, blazing star: the Sun. It's a place of fire and ice, storms and stillness, desolation and beauty. The planets, ...

Contributions of Galileo to Understanding our Solar System

Much of the early scientific discoveries made about our solar system came from the great Italian mathematician Galileo Galilei. This extraordinary figure in the history of astronomy and physics ...



The Solar System

The solar system model is being updated by spacecraft like New Horizons. ©NASA Solar System Formation The solar system is located in one of the spiral arms of the Milky Way galaxy. It was born about 4.5 billion years ago when a ...

Chapter 1: The Solar System

Upon completion of this chapter, you will be able to classify objects within the solar system, state their distances of in terms of light-time, describe the Sun as a typical star, relate its share of the mass within the solar ...



[Galileo's Observations of the Moon, Jupiter, Venus ...](#)

Born in 1564, Italian astronomer Galileo Galilei's observations of our solar system and the Milky Way have revolutionized our understanding of our place in the Universe. Galileo sparked the birth of modern astronomy with his ...



In Depth , Our Solar System - NASA Solar System Exploration

Our solar system consists of our star, the Sun, and everything bound to it by gravity - the planets Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune; dwarf planets such as ...



[15 Ways the International Space Station Benefits ...](#)

A space-based DNA sequencer could identify microbes, diagnose diseases, help researchers understand crew member health, and potentially help detect DNA-based life elsewhere in the solar system. Credits: ...





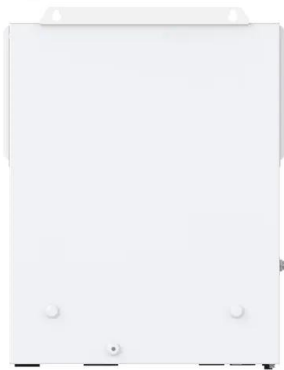
Three Space Station Studies Helping Scientists ...

Research conducted aboard the International Space Station is helping scientists answer questions about the formation of the universe and origins of life on Earth. During its 21 years of operation, the orbiting lab has ...



Solar System: Planets, Moons, and the Sun Explained

With each planet, moon, asteroid, and comet, the solar system tells a story of birth, destruction, rebirth, and motion--stories written in craters, frozen oceans, swirling storms, and planetary rings.



APOD: July 7, 1996

Astronomy Picture of the Day Each day a different image or photograph of our fascinating universe is featured, along with a brief explanation written by a professional astronomer. July 7, 1996 Explanation: Sir Isaac Newton changed ...



What Is the Importance of Studying the Solar System?

Studying the Solar System helps us understand the formation and evolution of planetary systems, the conditions necessary for life, and the potential for future human exploration. It also provides ...





[Solar system . Definition, Planets, Diagram, Videos.](#)

5 ???· Solar system, assemblage consisting of the Sun and those bodies orbiting it: 8 planets with more than 400 known planetary satellites; many asteroids, some with their own satellites; comets and other icy bodies; and ...



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