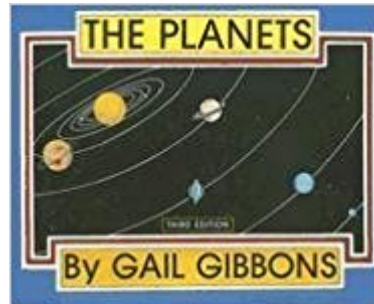




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The Planets: Third Edition



Synopsis

From the burning surface of Venus to the freezing darkness of Neptune, Gail Gibbons takes children on a tour of our planetary neighbors—which are very different from each other in size, shape, orbit, and even weather. Since *The Planets* was first published in 1993, space exploration has resulted in many new achievements and discoveries. This new edition of *The Planets* reflects some of these wondrous advances, while still offering young readers a timeless and accessible look at our solar system.

Book Information

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Holiday House; 3 edition (January 2, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0823421570

ISBN-13: 978-0823421572

Product Dimensions: 10.2 x 0.2 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 10 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #226,254 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #101 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Astronomy & Space > Aeronautics & Space #149 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Astronomy & Space > Astronomy #3465 in Books > Children's Books > Science, Nature & How It Works

Age Range: 5 - 8 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3

Customer Reviews

Kindergarten-Grade 2-Gibbons uses brief declarative sentences to describe the sun and each planet of the solar system in succession, introducing concepts such as a day, a year, orbit, and rotation. Her paintings sometimes tread the edge of oversimplicity; in a demonstration of day and night, there is almost no contrast between the planet's light and dark sides, and though she mentions in the text that Pluto is currently closer to the sun than Neptune, their orbits do not cross in the illustrations. Still, the bright colors, simplified shapes, and spacious, uncomplicated page design make this an inviting gateway to the subject. The book closes with an introduction to astronomy, creating a natural transition to the author's *Stargazers* (Holiday, 1992). John Peters, New York Public Library Copyright 1993 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or

unavailable edition of this title.

Ages 5-8. Similar in format to her other books, this is Gibbons' introduction to the planets. Well designed and laid out, the pages feature appealing full-color illustrations of stargazers, astronomers, the solar system, and individual planets. Less satisfying is the accompanying text, which lacks focus and clarity. Still, given the popularity of Gibbons' work with teachers and kids and the growing demand for beginning books on astronomy, many libraries will find this a useful purchase. Carolyn Phelan --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Very good; concise book to introduce our preschooler to the solar system; and a nice reminder for parents as well. Illustrations are good, giving the a good sense of proportions and distance. The book starts with a few introductory pages and then a full page per planet; from closest to the sun to the farthest. It includes Pluto as a 'dwarf planet' in this updated edition.

Bought it for my third grader but I ended up reading it and learned some interesting stuff. Very easy to understand and interesting facts.

Good reading for youngsters and there's a reading exercise for it online, too.

Great for teaching cause and effect relationship

Great

Great

My grandson loved this book.

Gail Gibbons book on the planets contains just a little bit more information than most young children's books on the subject. From information on how and why planets and stars look differently in the night sky to the distances of each planet from the sun, there's more for curious minds to ponder. The book begins by explaining a few difference between stars and planets. It continues with how the planets were named and the later discovery of the outer three. Then our solar system, orbits and rotations are discussed. Each planet is then explained in detail. The book does a nice job

of choosing facts to present and keeping the topics consistent from planet to planet. Each planet's distance from the sun, relative size, length of day and year and are included. When appropriate moons are mentioned. Unlike many other young children's books on the planets, information on some of the more well-known moons of other planets is given. Considering the target audience of the book, the information is nicely comprehensive. Toward the end of the book astronomers and space craft are very briefly mentioned. No information on space travel is included. As the title implies, the book focuses on information about the planets. The illustrations are nicely done; the book contains no photographs. The drawings, however, are very detailed and present the planets in a nice perspective. They are very well done.

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