

Name: _____ Date: _____

Dwarf Planets Multiple Choice Questions

Circle the correct answer.

1. The least known parts of the solar system exist just beyond planet
 - a. Mercury
 - b. Neptune
 - c. Venus
 - d. Mars

2. A dwarf planet
 - a. Revolves around the Sun
 - b. Is round
 - c. Has other small objects in its orbit
 - d. All of the above

3. Dwarf planet Pluto
 - a. Is smaller than the smallest planet
 - b. Is part of the Kuiper Belt
 - c. Both a. and b. above
 - d. None of the above

4. Which dwarf planet was once called a planet?
 - a. Ceres
 - b. Pluto
 - c. Both a. and b. above
 - d. None of the above

5. Dwarf planet MakeMake is named for a
 - a. Greek god
 - b. Roman god
 - c. Polynesian god
 - d. Aztec god

6. The space probe on its way to Pluto is named
 - a. New Horizons
 - b. Next Horizons
 - c. Voyager
 - d. Mariner



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Dwarf Planets Short Answer Questions

1. Do some research and locate pictures of the five dwarf planets. Make a collage of these pictures and be sure to label each one.
2. Do you think that people should be investigating the outer reaches of the solar system? Explain why or why not.
3. What three things are needed to define a dwarf planet.
4. Do some research and explain what an asteroid is.
5. Do some research and write a short report about the Polynesian god MakeMake.
6. Do some research and write a short report about the dwarf planet Ceres.
7. Astronomers have been adding new ideas about the outer areas of the solar system to the current scientific knowledge. Would you like to become a modern astronomer? Explain why or why not.



Dwarf Planets Answer Key

Multiple Choice

1. b.
2. d.
3. c.
4. c.
5. c.
6. a.

Short Answer

1. Individual response
2. Individual response
3. Dwarf planets have 3 criteria: 1) dwarf planets revolve in an orbit around the Sun; 2) dwarf planets are round in shape; and 3) A dwarf planet has an orbit that contains small objects.
4. Individual response
5. Individual response
6. Individual response
7. Individual response

