

How Many Moons?

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Caution: This activity is recommended for children 3 years of age

UAMN Virtual Early Explorers: Solar System

Step 4: If your child is learning to count, help them count several piles of ten to show how many moons are around your planet. Example: For Saturn, count out 8 piles of 10 beads each, for a total of 80 moons. You can use small bowls to count out each group of ten. Note:

Moons of the Solar System

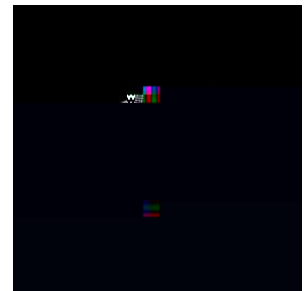
There are over 200 moons in our Solar System. They are very diverse from Jupiter's giant moon Ganymede to Mars's tiny moons Phobos and Deimos. Some are rocky, some are icy, and others even have volcanoes and geysers. Some moons may even have liquid oceans under their icy surfaces. NASA scientists hope to someday discover signs of life beyond Earth, and moons are part of this search.

In the Solar System, Saturn has the most moons, with 82. Jupiter is close behind, with 79 moons. Neither Mercury nor Venus have any moons. Our neighbor planet Mars has 2 moons.

Did You Know? The dwarf planet Pluto has five moons. Charon, the largest, is half the size of Pluto!

Photo montage of Jupiter and its four largest moons (not to scale) image: NASA/JPL.

Discover more about moons in the Solar System:
spaceplace.nasa.gov/how-many-moons/en/



Left to Right: Jupiter [s moon Io (NASA/JPL/University of Arizona), Jupiter Europa (NASA/JPL/DLR), Saturn's moon Titan (NASA/JPL/Space Science Institute), Saturn moon Hyperion (NASA/JPL).