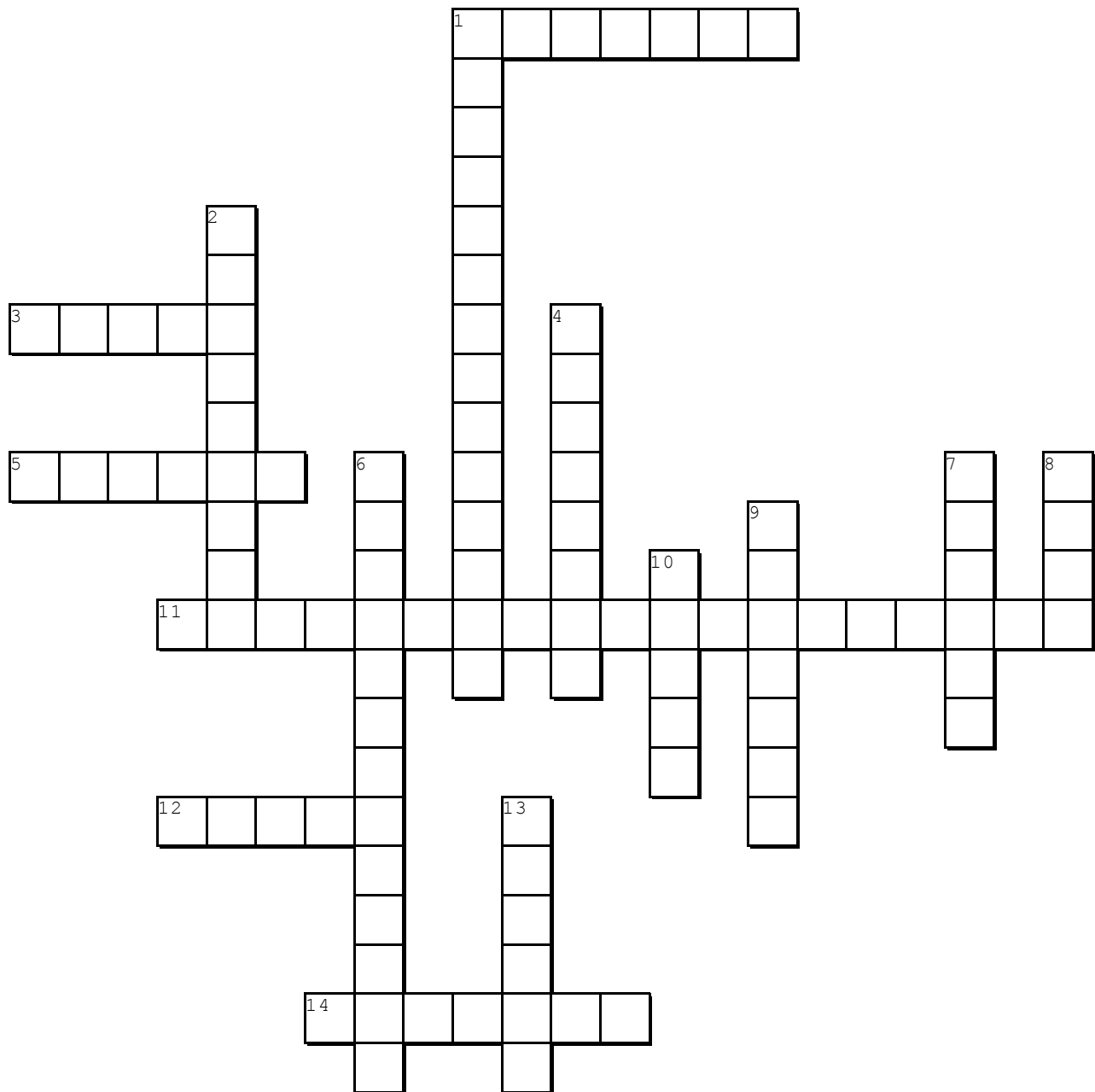


Name: _____

Ch 27 The Planets and the Solar System

Complete the crossword below



Across

- 1.** Outer planet; takes 11.9 Earth years to complete 1 orbit; Rotates faster than any other planet; Largest planet in solar system with more than twice the mass of all other planets combined
- 3.** A mass of rock, ice, dust, and gas traveling around the sun, usually in a highly eccentric orbit
- 5.** Outer planet; takes nearly 30 Earth years to complete 1 orbit; Turns on its axis every 10 hours; Has lowest density of any planet (lower than density of water); strong magnetic field; visible rings
- 11.** Inner Planets – Mercury, Venus, Earth and Mars – all have rocky crusts, dense mantle layers, and very dense cores
- 12.** Inner planet considered Earth's sister planet because it is similar in diameter, mass and gravity; however, has a weak/nonexistent magnetic field; rotates east to west; Orbits the sun every 225 days
- 14.** Inner planet nearest the sun; smallest of the terrestrial planets; Orbits the sun in 88 Earth days; Turns on its axis every 59 days; heavily cratered with weak gravity

Down

- 1.** Outer Planets – Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune – are considerably larger, gaseous and have ring systems as compared to terrestrial planets
- 2.** The part of a large meteoroid that survives its trip through the atmosphere and strikes Earth's surface
- 4.** A solid, rocklike mass that revolves around the sun; typically found between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter
- 6.** A large number of meteors entering and burning up in the atmosphere; often take place when Earth passes through a debris field
- 7.** The luminous phenomenon observed when a meteoroid enters Earth's atmosphere and burns up, popularly called a shooting star
- 8.** Inner planet; takes 687 days to orbit the sun; Rotates once in just over 24 Earth hours; Thin atmosphere approx.. 95% CO₂ and 5% Nitrogen and Argon; seasons similar to Earth
- 9.** Outer planet; Period of rotation is 16.1 Earth hours; Takes 165 years to orbit the sun; Winds of 2000 km/hr and mean temp about -225°C; Atmosphere is 74% hydrogen, 25% helium, and 1% methane.
- 10.** Reclassified as a dwarf planet in 2006; Has an elliptical orbit causing it to juxtapose position with Neptune for periods of time (being closer to the sun); Takes 248 years to orbit the sun
- 13.** Outer planet; Takes 84 days to complete 1 orbit; Turns on its axis about every 17.2 hours; Axis of rotation is tipped almost completely over so it orbits the sun on its side; Has 21 moons