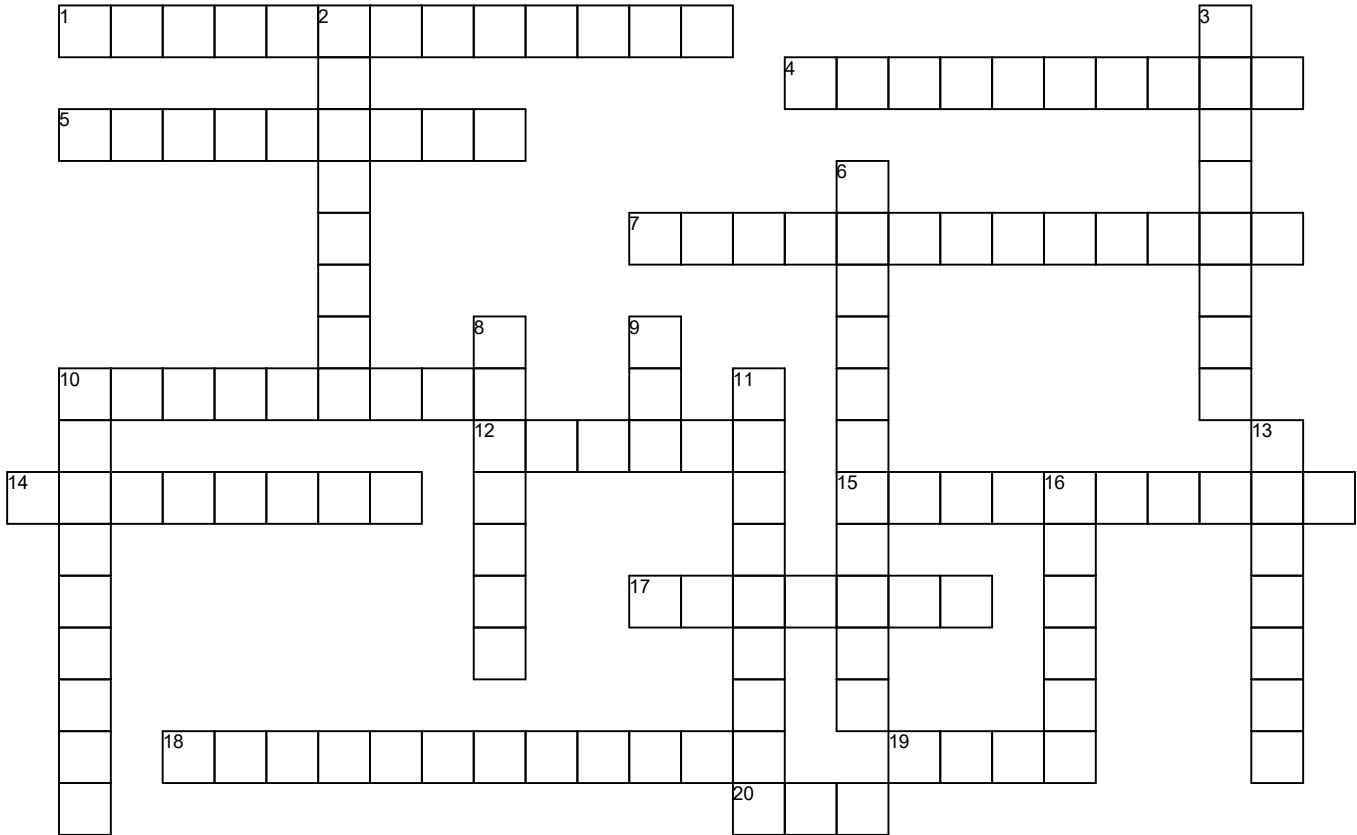


Planet Mercury Crossword Puzzle

1. Using the Across and Down clues, write the correct answer in the numbered grid below.



ACROSS

1. Mercury completes one around the Sun in about 88 Earth days.
4. The point in Mercury's orbit closest to the Sun.
5. The extremely thin outer layer of Mercury's atmosphere.
7. Mercury has a weak one, similar to Earth's.
10. NASA mission that orbited Mercury from 2011 to 2015.
12. This term refers to how much sunlight Mercury reflects.
14. Mercury has a large one that makes up most of its interior.
15. Mercury has a very thin one, almost a vacuum.
17. The closest planet to the Sun.
18. The largest impact crater on Mercury.
19. The line that Mercury rotates around, which is almost vertical.
20. A single one of these on Mercury lasts about 59 Earth days.

DOWN

2. The point in Mercury's orbit farthest from the Sun.
3. This is the period of time between two noons on Mercury, lasting about 176 Earth days.
6. Mercury experiences extreme changes in this, from hot to cold.
8. Mercury has a weak one compared to Earth.
9. This surprising substance exists in craters at Mercury's poles.
10. The first spacecraft to visit Mercury.
11. This from the Sun influences Mercury's magnetosphere.
13. Mercury's surface is covered in these due to frequent impacts.
16. Steep cliffs found on Mercury's surface, formed by tectonic activity.

ice

albedo

Messenger

solar wind

exosphere

solar day

craters

Mariner 10

atmosphere

aphelion

Caloris Basin

temperature

Mercury

perihelion

orbital period

gravity

magnetosphere

axis

scarps

iron core

day