

Name _____

Jupiter: The Giant of the Solar System

Short Answer Key

1. Jupiter's atmosphere contains colorful bands of clouds, and its most iconic feature is the Great Red Spot, a massive storm system that has been observed for centuries.
2. Jupiter's strong gravitational pull helps protect the inner planets, like Earth, by attracting and capturing potential asteroid and comet impacts, acting as a cosmic "shield."
3. One of the four largest moons of Jupiter is Europa. Europa is known for its potential subsurface ocean beneath its icy crust, making it an intriguing target for future exploration.
4. Jupiter's magnetosphere is hazardous for spacecraft because it can trap charged particles and create intense radiation belts. These radiation belts can damage spacecraft and pose risks to astronauts.
5. Space missions like Voyager, Galileo, and Juno have provided valuable data about Jupiter's atmosphere, magnetosphere, and moons. NASA's Juno spacecraft is currently studying Jupiter to gain insights into its formation and evolution, particularly its composition, gravity field, magnetic field, and polar magnetosphere.

