

Name _____

Neptune: The Mysteries of the Blue Giant

Open-Ended Response Questions

1. Discuss the significance of methane in Neptune's atmosphere and its role in creating the planet's distinctive blue color. How does this process differ from the coloration of other planets in our solar system?
2. Explain the dynamic weather patterns on Neptune, including the Great Dark Spot. What makes these atmospheric features unique, and how do they contribute to our understanding of planetary atmospheres?
3. Describe the importance of exploring distant planets like Neptune and the scientific insights such missions could provide about the outer regions of our solar system. What questions do scientists hope to answer through future exploration?
4. Imagine a future mission to Neptune. What specific scientific goals and discoveries might such a mission aim to achieve, and how could these findings benefit our understanding of the solar system's outer planets?

