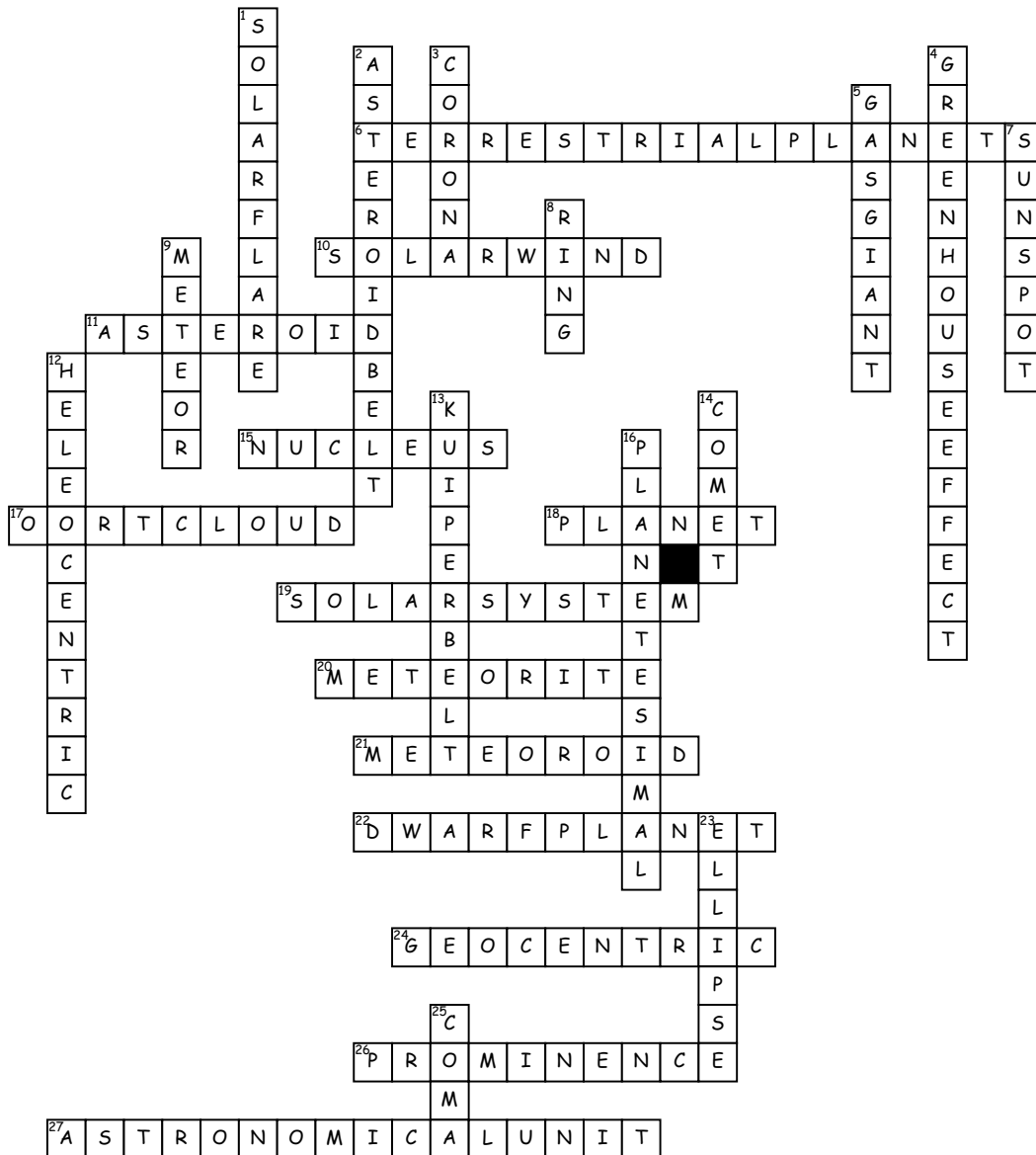


Name: _____

Date: _____

Period: _____

The Solar System (Chapter 15)



Across

6. the name given to the four inner planets; Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars

10. a stream of electrically charged particles that emanate from the sun's corona

11. one of the rocky objects revolving around the sun that are too small and numerous to be considered planets

15. the central core of an atom which contains protons and neutrons OR/ALSO the solid core of a comet

17. a spherical region of comets that surrounds the solar system

18. an object that orbits a star, is large enough to have become rounded by its own gravity, and has cleared the area of its orbit

19. the system consisting of the sun and the planets and other objects that revolve around it

20. a meteoroid that passes through the atmosphere and hits Earth's surface

21. a chunk of rock or dust in space, generally smaller than an asteroid

22. an object that orbits the sun and is spherical, but has not cleared the area of its orbit

24. term describing a model of the universe in which Earth is at the center of the revolving planets and stars

26. a huge reddish loop of gas that protrudes from the sun's surface, linking parts of sunspot regions

27. a unit of distance equal to the average distance between Earth and the Sun

Down

1. an eruption of gas from the sun's surface that occurs when the loops in sunspot regions suddenly connect

2. the region of the solar system between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter, where many asteroids are found

3. the outer layer of the sun's atmosphere

4. the trapping of heat near a planet's surface by certain gases in the planet's atmosphere

5. the name often given to the outer planets: Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune

7. a dark area of gas on the sun's surface that is cooler than surrounding gases

8. a thin disk of small ice and rock particles surrounding a planet

9. a streak of light in the sky produced by the burning of a meteoroid in Earth's atmosphere

12. term describing a model of the solar system in which Earth and the other planets revolve around the sun

13. a region where many small objects orbit the sun and faint stretches from beyond the orbit of Neptune to about 100 times Earth's distance from the Sun

14. a loose collection of ice and dust that orbits the sun, typically in a long, narrow orbit

16. one of the small asteroid-like bodies that formed the building blocks of the planets

23. an oval shape, which may be elongated or nearly circular; the shape of the planets' orbits

25. the fuzzy outer layer of a comet