Our Place in Space

Looking at the night sky, you can sense how small Earth is in the vastness of space. A million Earths could fit inside the Sun. Our planet is 150 million km (93 million miles) from the Sun in what scientists call the Solar System’s “habitable zone” – the place where liquid water can exist on the planet’s surface.

Our Solar System has one medium-sized star at the center, four small inner rocky planets, and four very large gaseous planets. Earth is the only planet in our Solar System where we know for certain that life has evolved.

Our Solar System is located in the Milky Way galaxy, home to more than 100 billion stars. There are over 100 billion galaxies in the Universe!