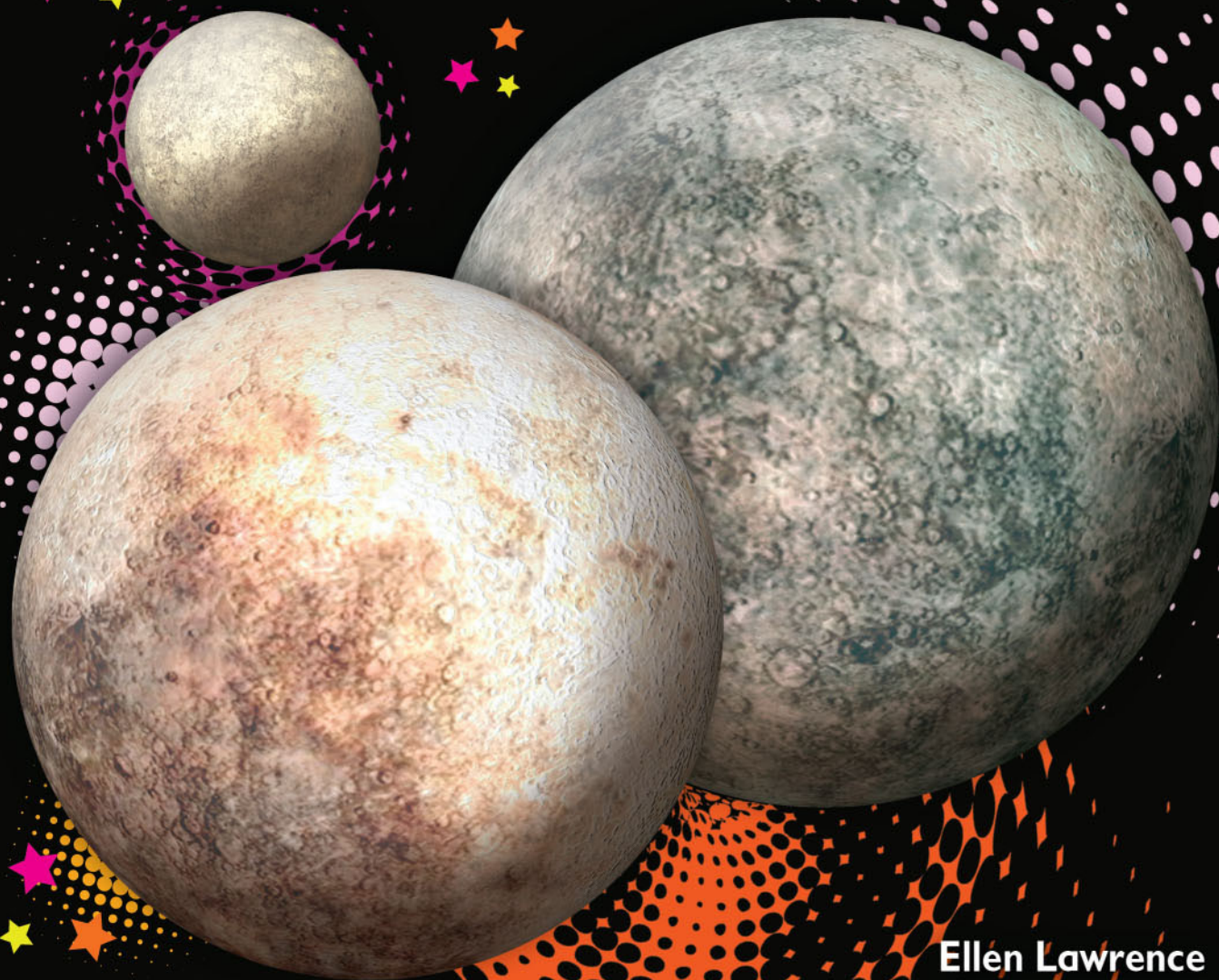




# PLUTO

and the Dwarf Planets



Ellen Lawrence

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# PLUTO

## and the Dwarf Planets

by Ellen Lawrence

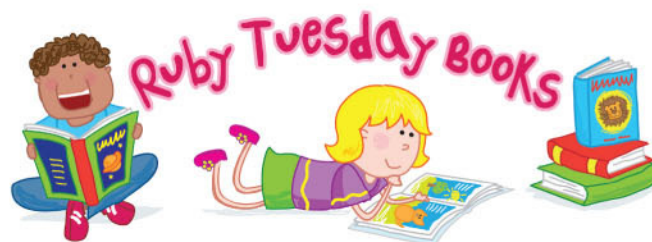
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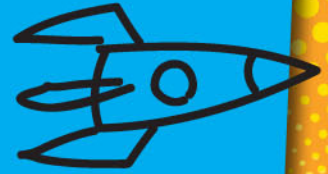
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Words shown in **bold** in the text are explained in the glossary.





# Welcome to Pluto



Imagine flying to a world that is billions of miles from Earth.

In every direction, the land is covered with ice.

On this tiny, faraway world, it is much colder than the coldest place on Earth.

Welcome to the **dwarf planet**, Pluto!



Pluto



Earth



Mars

A dwarf planet is a small, round space object. Dwarf planets are much smaller than big **planets**, such as Earth and Mars.



Charon

The Sun



The surface  
of Pluto

This picture shows what it might look like on the surface of Pluto. Earth, our home planet, has one **moon**, but tiny Pluto has five! Pluto's largest moon is called Charon (KARE-uhn).



# The Solar System



Pluto is moving in a huge circle around the Sun.

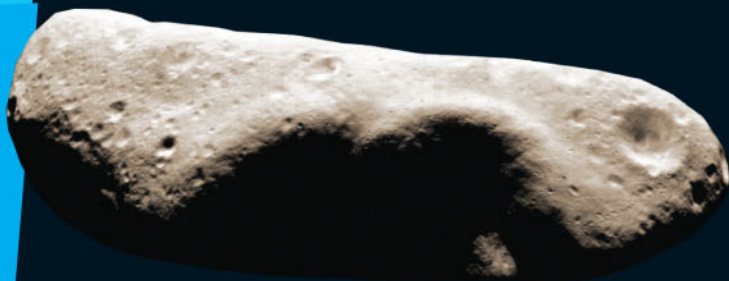
Other dwarf planets are **orbiting**, or moving, around the Sun, too.

There are also eight big planets circling the Sun.

The big planets are called Mercury, Venus, our home planet Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune.

Together, the planets, dwarf planets, and other space objects are called the **solar system**.

Icy **comets** and space rocks called **asteroids** also circle the Sun. Most of the asteroids are in a ring called the **asteroid belt**.



An asteroid



# The Solar System



Two dwarf planets, Pluto and Ceres, can be seen in this diagram. Other dwarf planets are moving through space beyond Pluto.

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# Learn More Online

To learn more about Pluto and other dwarf planets, go to  
[www.rubytuesdaybooks.com/dwarfplanets](http://www.rubytuesdaybooks.com/dwarfplanets)

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# PLUTO

## and the Dwarf Planets

Billions of miles from Earth, a tiny, icy world is moving through space. This is Pluto, and it is just one member of a group of small, mysterious worlds that orbit the Sun with many secrets to reveal.



**Welcome to the dwarf planets!**



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