Space quiz for kids: ten quizzes, three boxes each, read aloud

Peabody blog · Science · updated 2026-10-30

Ten space quizzes for kids, ten questions each: planets in order, Moon shapes, meteor months, moons by NASA's count and sky safety. Every answer has a why.

Peabody has ten space quizzes for kids at /space/quiz, ten questions each. Every question has three answer boxes and no typing, every question is read aloud, and every answer, right or wrong, comes with a short "why". The numbers come from NASA's planetary fact sheets and Peabody's own sky table, not from anyone's memory. They're written for children who are still learning to read, with a grown-up alongside for the youngest.

The ten quizzes

1. Planets in order. Peabody names a place in the line, "Which planet is fifth from the Sun?", and a child picks from three. Two extra questions: which comes right after Earth, and which is the farthest planet (with Pluto as a tempting wrong answer).
2. Which is bigger? Ten rounds of three worlds: pick the biggest across. Every size is NASA's, from the Moon's 3,475 km to the Sun's.
3. Hot or cold? Ten rounds of three: which is hottest on average? The surprise is Venus, at about 464 °C, hotter than Mercury though it's further from the Sun.
4. Moon shapes. Peabody draws a Moon; a child names it: crescent, quarter, gibbous or full.
5. Growing or shrinking? Ten drawn Moons. Lit on the right means growing; lit on the left, shrinking.
6. Read the sky card. Real nights from Peabody's sky table: which way do you face, and how high is "three fists up"? One fist at arm's length is about ten degrees.
7. Shooting star months. Which month does each shower peak? Ten showers, from the Quadrantids in January to the Geminids in December.
8. How many moons? By NASA's count, from none for Mercury and Venus to 274 for Saturn.
9. Days and years. Which world has the longest day, and how long is a year on Mars? A day is one spin; a year is one trip around the Sun.
10. Sky safety. Ten rules, every one from the grown-ups' page: never look at the Sun, eclipse glasses the way NASA says, a grown-up goes too, red light for night eyes.

How a question works

A question appears with three boxes. The right one is in a different place each time, never always first. Peabody reads it aloud, so a pre-reader can play with a grown-up nearby. Tap a box and Peabody says whether it was right and why, for example: "Venus is hottest: its thick air traps the heat, even though Mercury is closer to the Sun."

At the end, the score lands in one of three bands: "Liftoff!" below half, "In orbit" from half, and "Mission control" for nearly everything right. Each band links on to a page about the subject, so a quiz on moons ends at Saturn and its moons, and the safety quiz ends at the rules for grown-ups.

Where to start, by age

- Five to six: Moon shapes and Growing or shrinking. The pictures do the work.
- Seven to eight: Planets in order and Which is bigger? Print the planets in order strip first and keep it on the table.
- Nine and up: Days and years, How many moons and Read the sky card. Then go outside and use Sky Tonight for real.
- Everyone, once: Sky safety.

Ways to play as a family

1. Grown-up reads, child taps. Or swap: the child reads the boxes to you.
2. Guess before tapping. Say your answer out loud first and see who was right.
3. One quiz a night for ten nights is a tidy bedtime run.
4. Go and check. After the Moon shapes quiz, look out of the window and name tonight's Moon.

Three questions grown-ups ask

Does my child need an account? No account and no sign-up. The quizzes are pages anyone can open.

Why only three answers? Three boxes and no typing is Peabody's rule for every game and quiz. It keeps the reading load small, so the question is about space, not spelling.

Why do the moon counts look so big? NASA's count for Saturn is 274 and for Jupiter 95, and telescopes keep finding more. The quiz says so in its answer.

Peabody (peabody.kids) is free through the end of 2026, with no ads and no sign-up. After the quizzes, the library has stories at your child's reading level.

Sources

- NASA, planetary fact sheets: sizes, temperatures, moons, days and years, checked 29 October 2026.
- American Meteor Society, meteor shower calendar 2026–2027: the shower months.
- NASA, eclipse safety: the eclipse question in the safety quiz.

Free at peabody.kids/blog/space-quiz-for-kids