

Name: _____ Class: _____ Alien Moons

1. What is a moon?
2. Explain the process of accretion. What 2003 experiment proved the accretion could occur?
3. How did energy affect the formation and development of Jupiter's moons Callisto and Ganymede?
4. The narrator says Jupiter "keeps trying to eat" its moons. What does this mean and why is it happening?
5. Why is Io so active? How can there be active volcanoes on a moon?
6. Why do scientists think there might be water on Europa under the ice?
7. How did collisions create "the most extraordinary moon system of all"? Why are parts of the rings of Saturn considered moons?
8. What did the Cassini probe discover about Saturn? How did this help astronomers?
9. Why do Saturn's rings appear to be bright and shiny?
10. How do scientists think Saturn's rings formed? Where did the material for the rings come from?

11. "The story of moons is the story of gravity." What does the documentary mean by this?

12. Where did Mars's moons Phobos and Deimos come from? What will be their eventual fate?

13. Why is Cruithne sometimes called Earth's second moon? Why isn't Cruithne a moon?

14. What is Triton's unusual story? Why was it a puzzling to planetary scientists?

15. How did our Moon form? Why is it unique in the Solar System?

16. How are scientists testing this theory in the lab?

17. What would have happened if Theia had hit Earth directly? Why?

18. How did the moon contribute to the formation of life on Earth?

19. How does Saturn's gravity power Enceladus's ice volcanoes?

20. Why might Titan have life?

21. Why do scientists think we might someday find life on a moon in the outer Solar System?