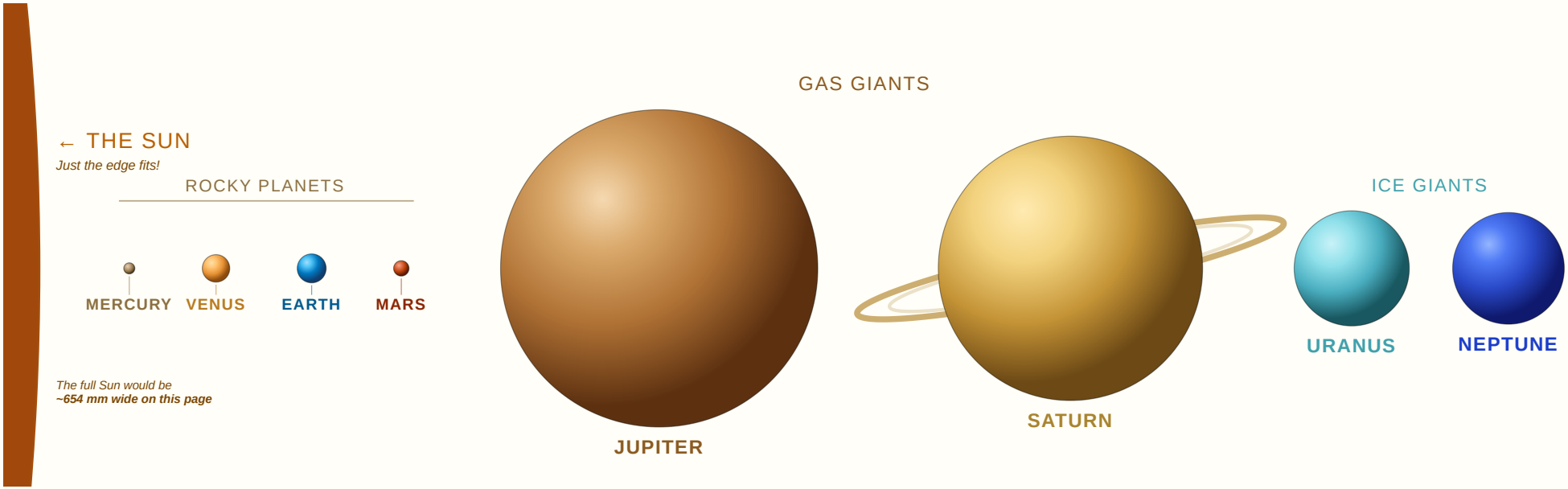
PLANET SIZES

HOW BIG ARE THE PLANETS COMPARED TO EACH OTHER?

AGES 5–12



All planets shown **at the same scale** *— Earth is 6 mm wide here (about a small pea). The inner planets are so tiny next to Jupiter that they're easy to miss!*

IF EARTH WERE A MARBLE… HANDS-ON

Each planet matched to an everyday object. Gather these from your kitchen and lay out your own solar system!

MERCURY	**a pinhead**	*~4 mm*
VENUS	**a peppercorn**	*~9.5 mm*
EARTH	**a small marble**	*10 mm*
MARS	**a blueberry**	*~5 mm*
JUPITER	**a grapefruit**	*~110 mm*
SATURN	**an orange**	*~91 mm*
URANUS	**a walnut**	*~40 mm*
NEPTUNE	**a walnut**	*~39 mm*

TRY IT WITH YOUR CLASS 3 ACTIVITIES

★ BUILD A FRUIT-BOWL SOLAR SYSTEM *NEEDS: KITCHEN ITEMS*

Bring in (or ask kids to bring) the objects in the table on the left. Lay them out on a table — the WOW moment is seeing how tiny the rocky planets are next to Jupiter!

★ GUESS BEFORE YOU REVEAL *NO SUPPLIES — JUST THIS SHEET*

Cover the planet labels above with paper. Show kids the sizes only and ask them to guess which planet is which. Reveal and discuss surprises!

★ WALL POSTER CHALLENGE *NEEDS: PAPER, SCISSORS*

Each child picks a planet and draws it at the size given in the table. Cut out and arrange on a wall — bigger kids can also add a fact card next to theirs.

Sizes use real planet diameters · Sun's radius = 695,700 km · Earth's diameter = 12,742 km