This is how the TRAPPIST-1f exoplanet could* look like.

Is there life?

Green aliens¹ come out of a UFO. They aren't people, they aren't animals. They don't live on Earth². Is this just a scene from a sci-fi film?

Some people think there is life on other planets. Life needs water, oxygen³, the right temperature, and more. Scientists from NASA look for⁴ planets where there could^{5*} be life.

Planets and exoplanets

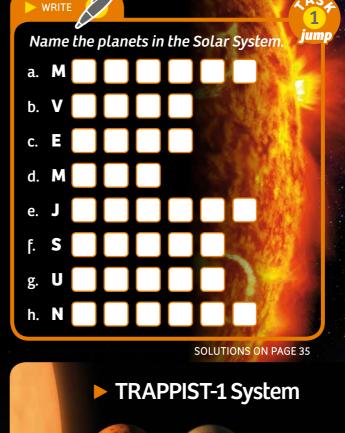
We live in a galaxy called the Milky Way. There are about 200 billion stars in the Milky Way. One of them is the Sun. Eight planets orbit⁶ the Sun: Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune. Together they make the Solar System.

Planets which orbit a star outside our Solar System are called exoplanets. Astronomers know about more than 3,000 exoplanets, but they think there are many more. Could life exist on these exoplanets?

Exoplanets similar⁷ to Earth

There are exoplanets that look like⁸ Earth. For example, in the TRAPPIST-1 system. The planets that orbit the star TRAPPIST-1 are called TRAPPIST-1b, TRAPPIST-1c, TRAPPIST-1d, TRAPPIST-1e, TRAPPIST-1f, TRAPPIST-1g, TRAPPIST-1h. TRAPPIST-1d is the hot candidate for life.





Another system with planets where life could exist is around the star TOI 700. There are three exoplanets orbiting it: TOI 700 b, TOI 700 c and TOI 700 d. TOI 700d could also have water and oxygen.

b

Scientists still have a lot of work to do to find life on other planets. But the chances of finding aliens are bigger^{**} and bigger!

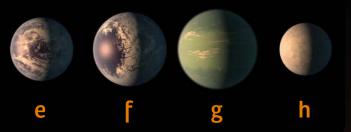
- LANGUAGE NOTE
- * can could ** big bigger the biggest

VOCABULARY

¹ alien ['eɪliən] – mimozemšťan | ² Earth [3:θ] – Země | ³ oxygen ['ɒksɪdʒən] – kyslík ⁴ to look for (something)[luk fə] – hledat (něco) | ⁵ could [kəd] – mohl | ⁶ to orbit ['ɔ:bɪt] – obíhat ⁷ similar ['sɪmələ] – podobný | ⁸ to look like (somehing) [luk laɪk] – vypadat jako (něco)

d







Do you want to learn more about Earth-like exoplanets in the TRAPPIST -1 system? Watch this video.

