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## Library After Hours: Reinventing the First-Year Experience, One Epic Party at a Time

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# Library After Hours

Reinventing the first-year experience, one epic party at a time

# Utah State University

**Katie  
Strand**

First-Year Experience  
Librarian

**Paul  
Daybell**

Archival Cataloging  
Librarian

**Niki  
Fullmer**

Educational Outreach  
Librarian

# Presentation Overview

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library integration

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institutional support

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After Hours Event  
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offerings

04

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Impact, assessment &  
future plans

01

# Background

USU'S FYE PROGRAM & LIBRARY  
INTEGRATION

# Connections (USU 1010)

74% of students  
participate

3 intense days

2 credits

30 students per class

## Course Objectives

1. Why am I here?
2. How do I best engage myself in the process of becoming an educated person?
3. How do I become a fully engaged member of the University community?

# Workshops

campus resources, upstander training, study skills

# Assignments

pre-class reading, final reflection paper

# Social Activities

community engagement, luminary

# Library Integration



## Lockbox Activity

Students work in groups to solve a series of library clues



## Optional

In 2019, the library workshop was no longer required



## Assessment

Focus groups with Connections students in March of 2020



# Assessment Findings

**Lack of consistency** in first-year student awareness of library resources.

Students who participated in the workshop appeared to have a **more nuanced understanding of the library**.

Students who did not receive the library workshop wished that there had been an **opportunity to discover the library**.

Students who attended the workshop still experienced **anxiety while navigating the library building**.

Many students think the library is a place of myriad opportunities, but often believe **it's their responsibility to discover those opportunities**.

02

# PRE AFTER HOURS

EVENT GOALS & INSTITUTIONAL  
SUPPORT

# After Hours Goals

## Discovery

New USU students will discover resources and services that can help them academically and financially during their time at USU.

## Belonging

New USU students will become more comfortable navigating the library building and feel that it is truly a space for them

## Fun

New USU students will have fun in the library.

# Gaining Support inside the library and across campus



## Collaborator

Campus IT Labs was also made optional in 2019



## Connections

Shift from workshop to social activity



## Funding

Gained admin support and additional funding, \$8,000 total for 2022



## Library Wide Support

Planning task force with members from every library unit

03

# AFTER HOURS EVENT

TIMING, STAFFING & EVENT  
OFFERINGS

# Day & Time

- 2-hour event for USU Connections students only.
- Penultimate event before Freshman luminary.
- Closing Party vibe.



# Staffing

## All Hands -on Deck



### Planning Team Leads

2-3 Committee  
Members served as  
point for each main  
activity area



### Staff and Student Volunteers

Any and all additional  
volunteers, ended up  
with an additional 20



### Third Party Vendors

Outside vendors  
staffed soda bar and  
laser tag



# Refreshment



"The soda bar was a fun addition, I haven't seen that before."



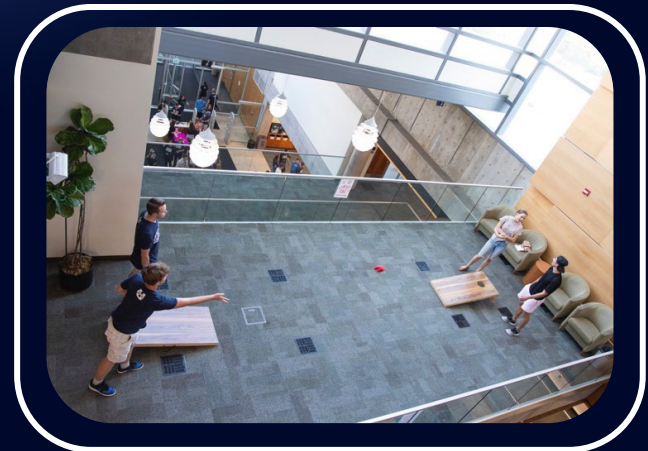
# Games: Active

- Fully staffed and hosted activities
- Breakout Boxes in Special Collections & Archives
- 3rd Party Laser Tag.
- VR Experience
- Video Games



# Games: Passive

- Passive student-led activities
- Lawn games
- Coloring & Cat Videos



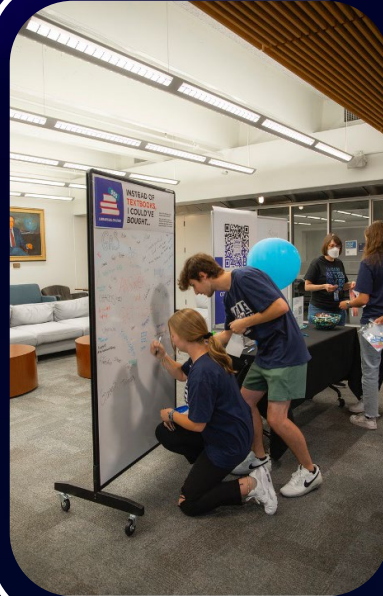
# Information Booths

## Familiarize Service Points



"I enjoyed being able to wander and explore without feeling weird."

## Highlight Resources



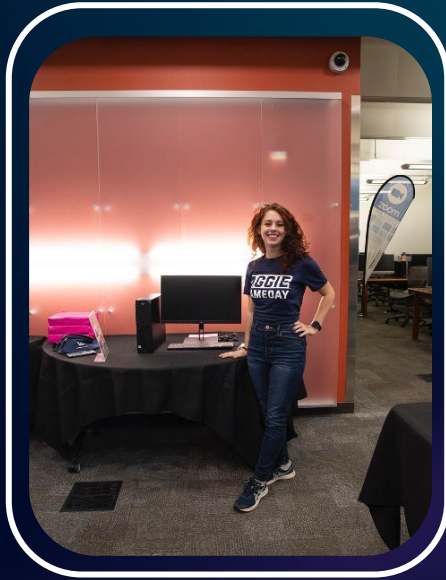
## Explore the Space



"There was lots of fun booths and helped me gain an overall better layout of the library."



# Raffle



Drive Traffic to  
Information Booths

Get Good Prizes

04

# POST AFTER HOURS

IMPACT, ASSESSMENT & FUTURE  
PLANS

**OVER 1,500**

**First-year students attended the event**

# Impact



## Comfort

Erase  
hesitation and  
demystify the  
library



## Fun

Increase  
discovery and  
excitement



## Assessment

Understand  
student needs &  
student-library  
interaction

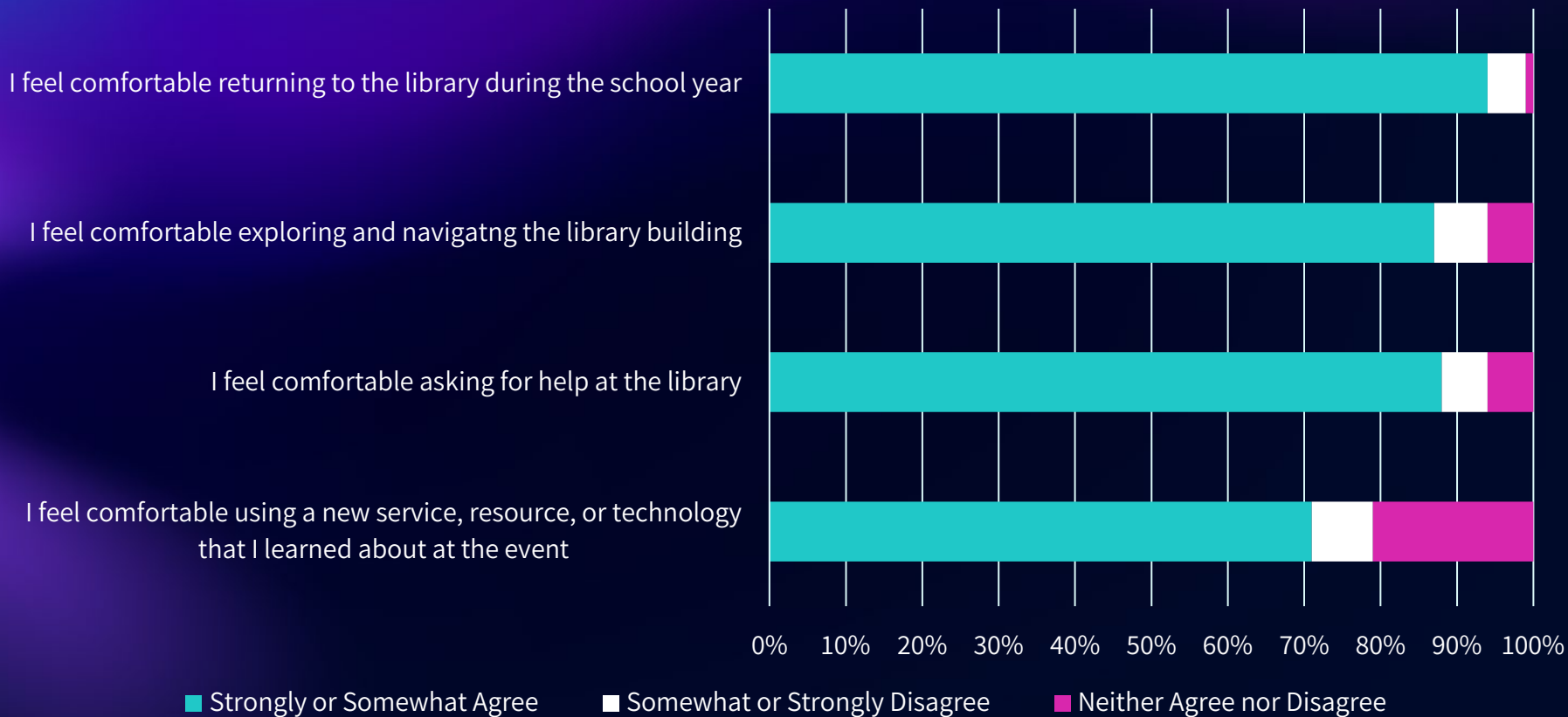
# Assessment of Event

Connections student were invited to complete a survey about the event. **149 students** completed the survey.

- 126 students who attended
- 23 students who did not

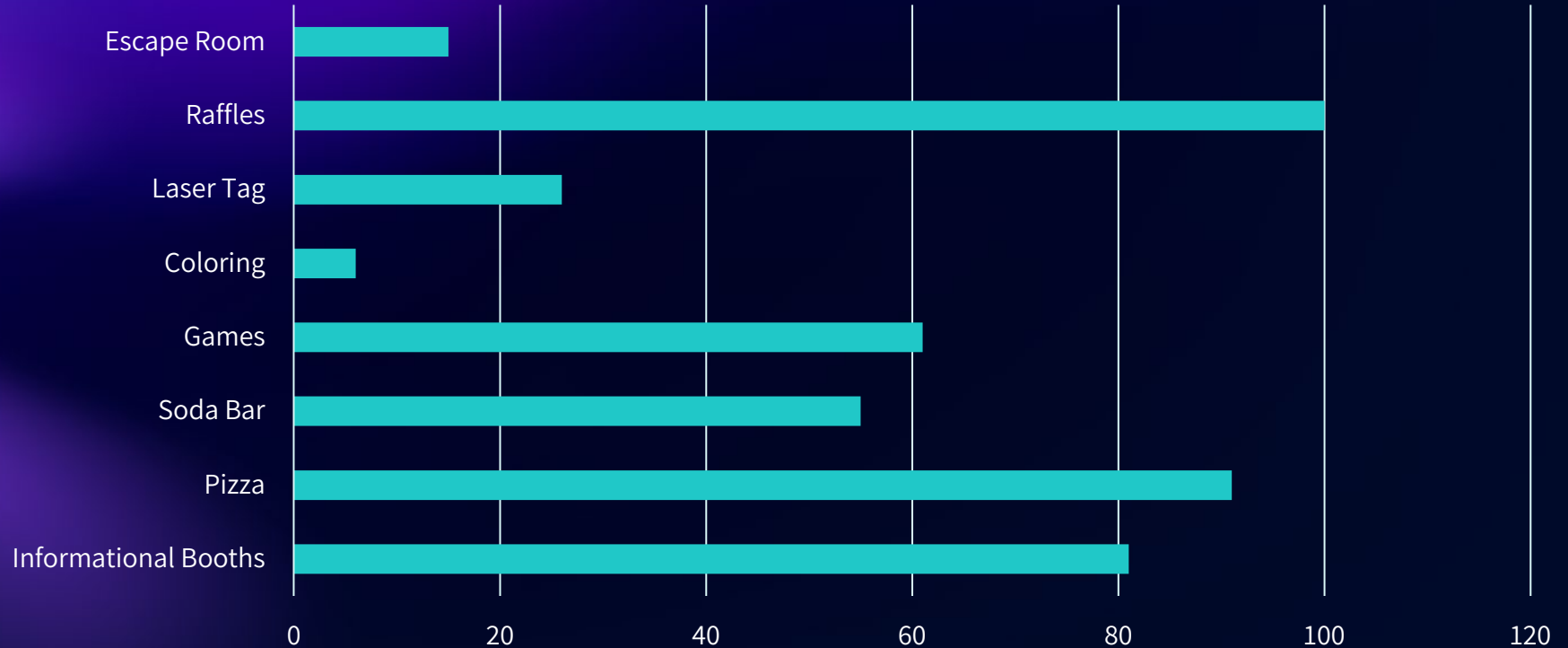


# Level of Agreement



# Student Participation

126 Responses



**“It was something you don’t always get to experience at the library”**





**“I liked how  
creative it was  
and how many  
different  
activities there  
were”**

96% of student said they would  
recommend this event to future  
Connections students.

# Challenges

## Planning

Coordinating library and campus logistics

## Buy -in

Apprehension and roadblocks from library and campus

## Funding

Collecting funding from multiple entities



**Benefits**

Engagement

Belonging

Fun

# Future Plans



Increase funding

Library  
partnerships



Update Logistics

Move booths  
and reorganize  
raffle



Assessment

Survey 2023  
participants



# Thanks!

Do you have any  
questions?

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01

# Name of the Section

You could enter a subtitle here if  
you need it

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# You Could Use Four Columns, **Why Not?**



## Mercury

Mercury is the closest planet to the Sun



## Mars

Despite being red, Mars is a cold place



## Venus

Venus is the second planet from the Sun



## Saturn

Saturn is the ringed one and a gas giant

# Introduction

Mercury is the closest planet to the Sun and the smallest one in the Solar System—it's only a bit larger than the Moon

“This is a quote, words full of  
wisdom that someone  
important said and can make  
the reader get inspired.”

—Someone **Famous**

# The Slide Title Goes Here!

Do you know what helps you make your point clear? Lists like this one:

- They're simple
- You can organize your ideas clearly
- You'll never forget to buy milk!

And the most important thing: the audience won't miss the point of your presentation

# You Could Use Four Columns, **Why Not?**



## Mercury

Mercury is the closest planet to the Sun



## Mars

Despite being red, Mars is a cold place



## Venus

Venus is the second planet from the Sun



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Saturn is the ringed one and a gas giant

# Maybe You Need to Divide

# the Content



Mercury

Is the closest planet to the Sun and the smallest one in the Solar System—it's only a bit larger than the Moon



Venus

Venus has a beautiful name and is the second planet from the Sun and its atmosphere is extremely poisonous



# You Could Use Three Columns, Why Not?



Mars

It's full of iron oxide dust, which gives the planet its reddish cast



Jupiter

It's a gas giant and also the biggest planet in the Solar System



Saturn

It's a gas giant, composed mostly of hydrogen and helium

# AWESOME WORDS

Because key words are great  
for catching your audience's  
attention

02

# Name of the Section

You could enter a subtitle here if  
you need it

# Infographics Make Your Idea Understandable...

Despite being red, Mars  
is a cold place

1



Venus has a beautiful  
name, but is terribly hot

3

Saturn is the ringed one  
and a gas giant

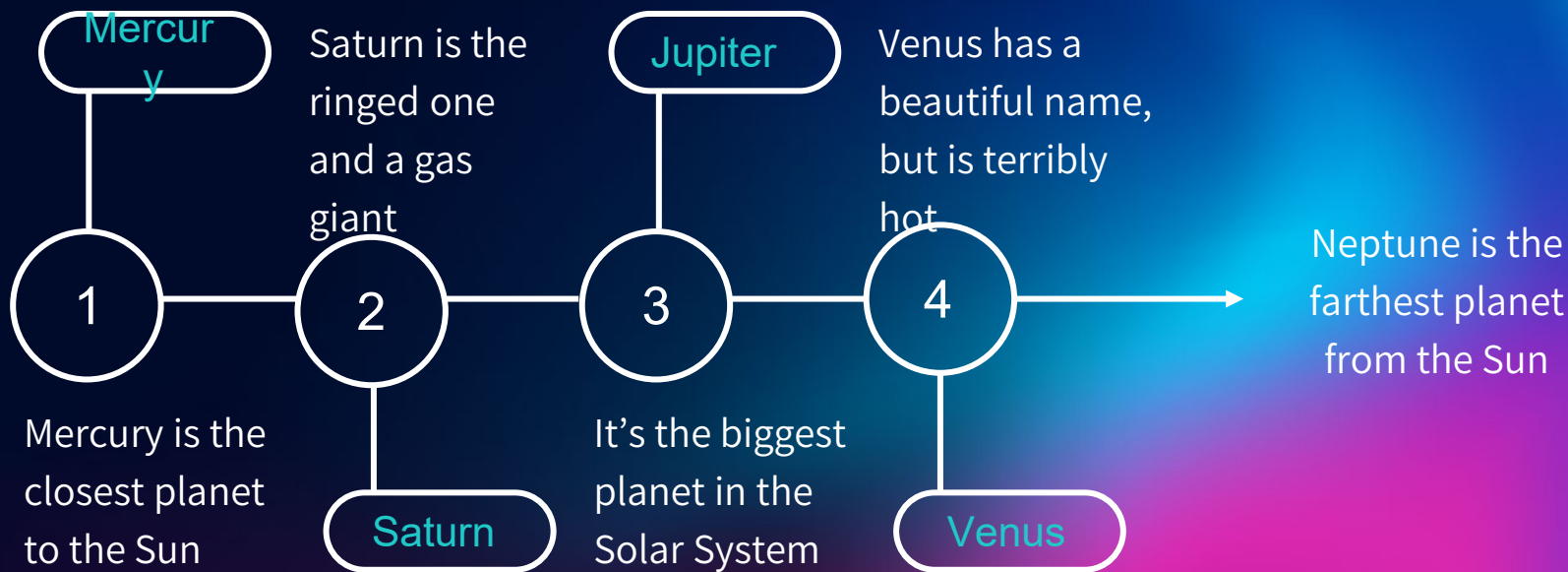
4



# ... And the Same Goes for Tables

	Mass (Earth)	Diameter (Earth)	Gravity (Earths)
Mercury	0.06	0.38	0.38
Mars	0.11	0.53	0.38
Jupiter	95.2	9.4	1.16

# A Timeline Always Works Well



# This Is a Map



Mercury

Mercury is the closest planet to the Sun



Venus

Venus is the second planet from the Sun



Jupiter

It's the biggest planet in the Solar System

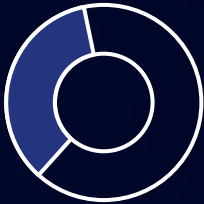


Saturn

Saturn is the ringed one and a gas giant



# How About the Percentages?



20%

Mercury is the closest planet to the Sun

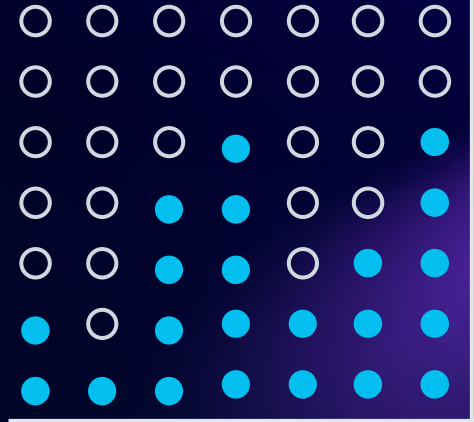


78%

Venus has a beautiful name, but it's hot

61%

Despite being red, Mars is a cold place



# This Is a Graph



Mercury

Mercury is the closest planet to the Sun



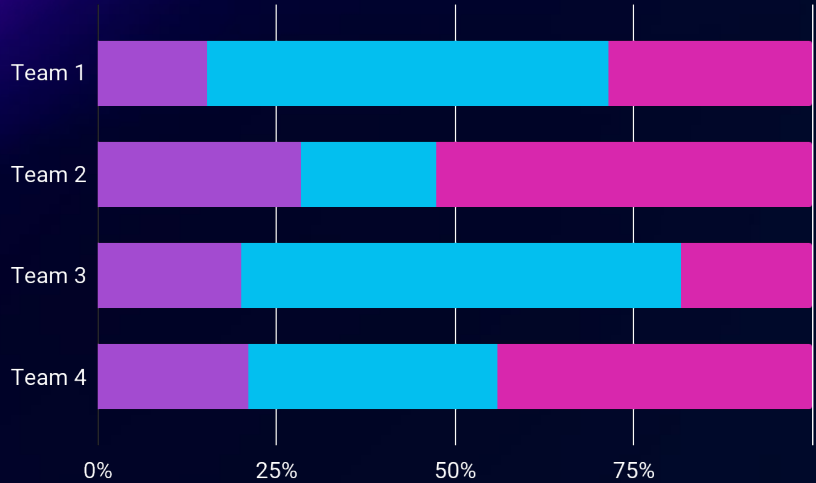
Jupiter

It's the biggest planet in the Solar System



Saturn

Saturn is the ringed one and a gas giant



To modify this graph, click on it, follow the link, change the data and paste the new graph here

# You Could Use Six Columns



## Mercury

Mercury is the closest planet to the Sun



## Mars

Despite being red, Mars is a cold place



## Venus

Venus is the second planet from the Sun



## Neptune

Neptune is the farthest planet from the Sun



## Saturn

Saturn is the ringed one and a gas giant



## Jupiter

It's the biggest planet in the Solar System

333,000.00

earths is the Sun's mass

24h 37m 23s

is Jupiter's rotation period

386,000 km

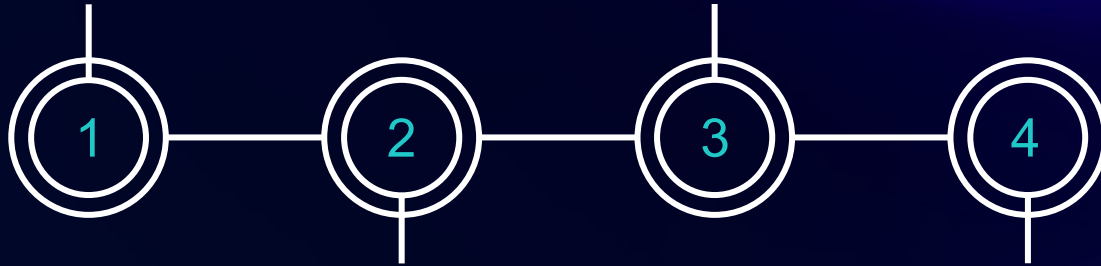
is the distance between Earth and the Moon

# A Timeline Always

# Works Fine

Mercury is the closest planet to the Sun

Despite being red, Mars is a cold place



Neptune is the farthest planet from the Sun

Venus is the second planet from the Sun

# Desktop Software

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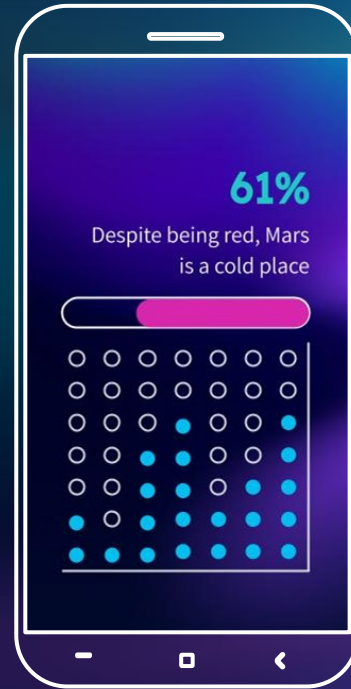
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# Mobile App

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# Our Evolution

2005

Mercury is the closest planet to the Sun

1

2008

Despite being red, Mars is a cold place

2

2010

Venus is the second planet from the Sun

3

# Our Evolution

2012

Saturn is the ringed  
one and a gas giant

4

2019

Earth is the planet  
where we live on

5

And Still  
Countin  
g

# Alternative Resources

## Vector

- Northern lights landing page
- Northern lights landing page
- Northern lights landing page
- Template northern lights landing page
- Northern lights landing page

# Resources

## Vector

- Northern lights night sky space landing page
- Northern lights landing page
- Abstract design of northern lights landing page
- Northern lights landing page

## Photo

- Woman making notes on charts
- Pretty woman writing on chart
- Man and woman coworking with papers

## Icon

- Marketing Icon Pack

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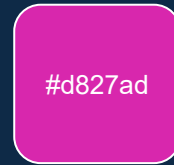
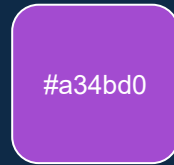
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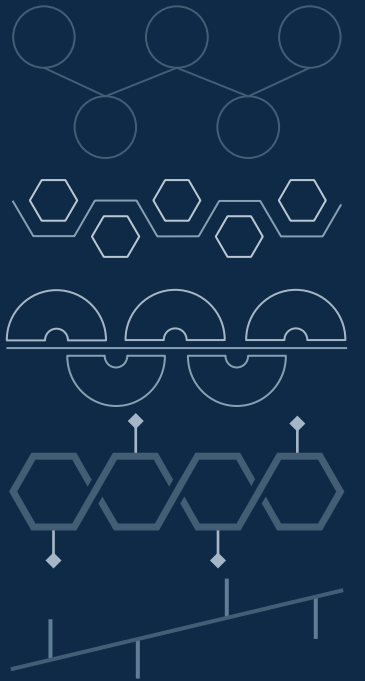
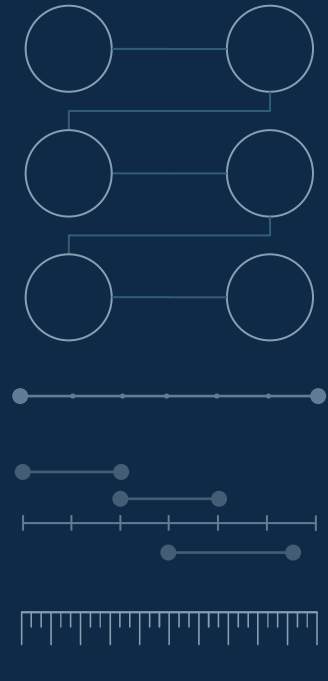
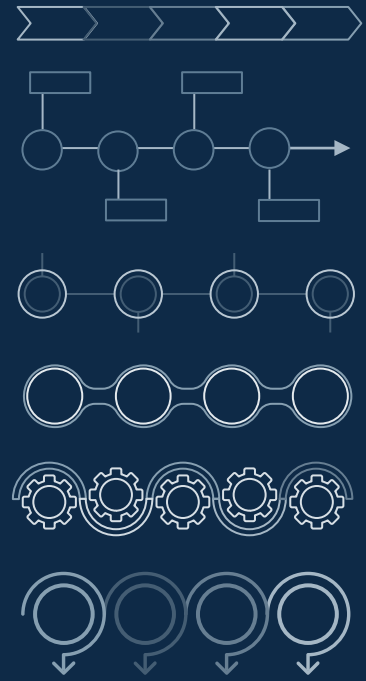
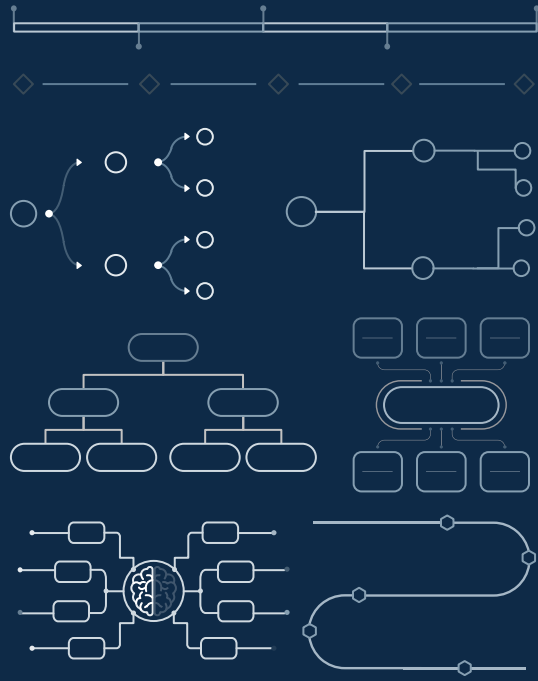
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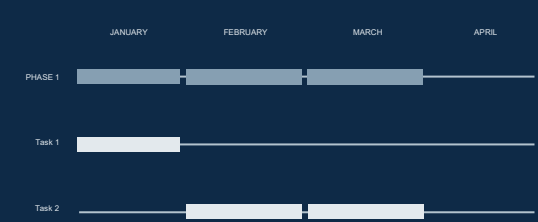
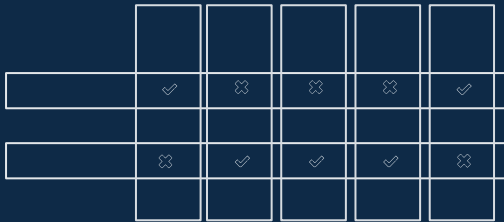
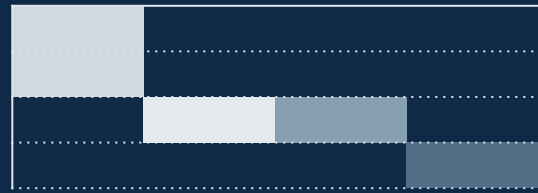
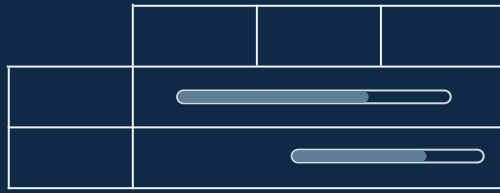
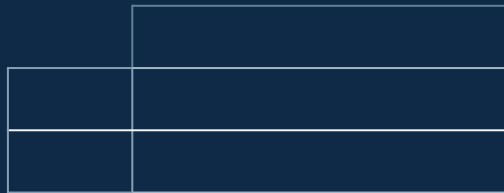
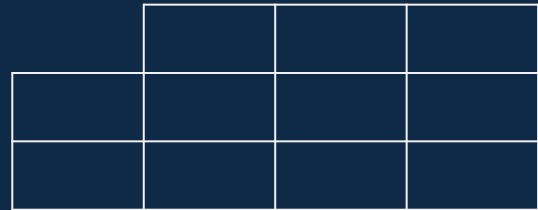
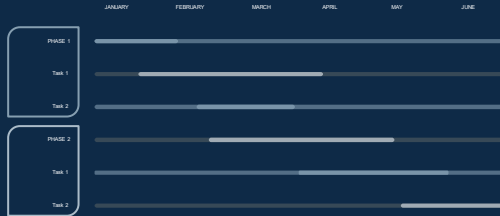
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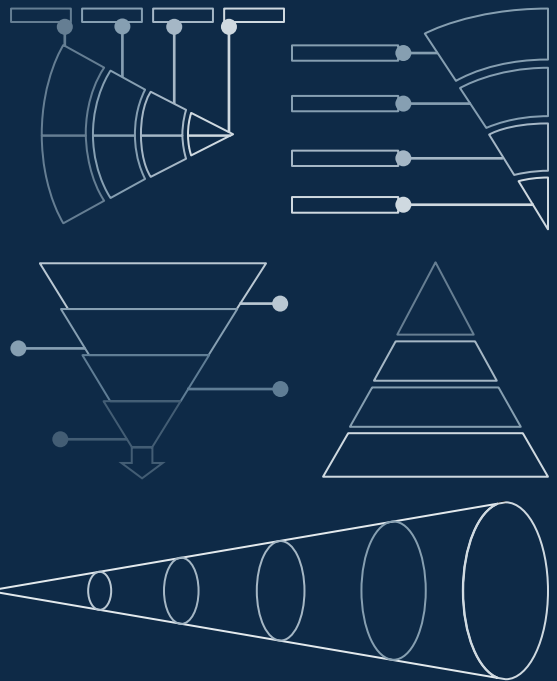
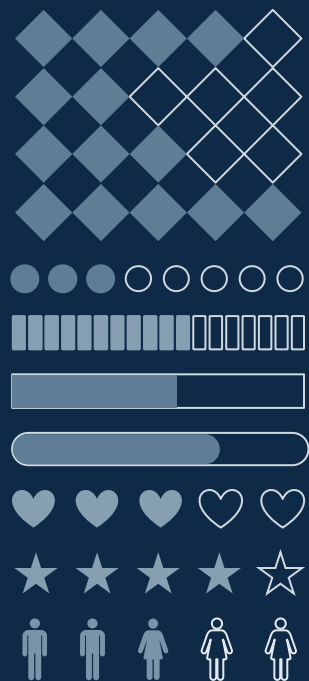
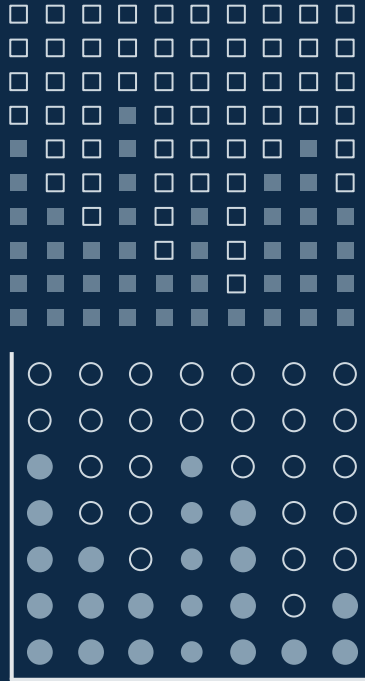














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## Medical Icons



## Business Icons



## Teamwork Icons





## Creative Process Icons



## Performing Arts Icons



# Nature Icons



# SEO & Marketing Icons



