

Name: _____

Date: _____

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Jupiter & Europa

Europa is the 4th largest moon of Jupiter, just slightly smaller than our moon. Although Europa is covered by a massive ice crust which completely covers the moon's surface, evidence suggests that the true surface of Europa is made of rock and contains a large salt water ocean, like the Pacific here on earth.

Europa orbits Jupiter in just over 3.5 days. But is gravitationally locked to Jupiter much like the moon is locked to earth with one side always facing the planet. Europa orbits about twice as far from Jupiter as the moon does from the earth.

Scientists use their knowledge of the earth, moon, sun system to predict conditions on other worlds, such as Europa. From what you know about the earth, sun, moon system try to predict what you would experience if you could land on Europa. Speculate on the length of day, month, tides, gravity, eclipses, etc. Provide evidence from the earth, moon, sun system to support your ideas.