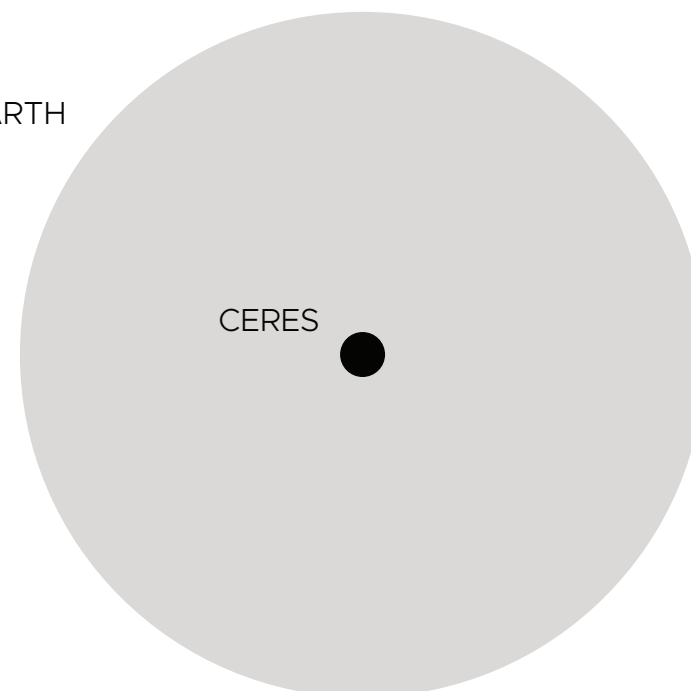


The planets are shown in their correct order of distance from the Sun and their correct relative orbital distances. The sizes of the bodies are greatly exaggerated relative to the orbital distances.

CERES is the largest object in the asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter. In fact, it makes up 30 percent of the asteroid belt's total mass. Ceres is heavily cratered, with no atmosphere, and large amounts of ice underground mixed with rock and salt. It also has a huge volcano that likely once erupted with salt and mud, and a crater with prominent bright, salty deposits — suggesting the icy subsurface has erupted in the past and could still be active.

Ceres is named for the Roman goddess of agriculture. The word “cereal” comes from the same origin.

EARTH



Ceres is 0.07x (or 7%) the size of Earth

NASA EXPLORES CERES

solarsystem.nasa.gov/ceres