1. All the planets roughly orbit the Sun in a plane.
2. This plane is roughly the same as the rotational equator of the Sun.
3. Planetary orbits are, for the most part, circular.
4. The planets all revolve in the same direction about the Sun.
5. The Sun and the planets, with the exception of Venus and Uranus, rotate on their axis in the same direction. With the exception of Uranus, the tilt between the equator and the orbital plane of the Sun and planets is small.
6. The planets differ in composition: the planets nearest the Sun tend to be small, dense and metal-rich, whereas the planets farthest from the Sun tend to be large, light and hydrogen-rich.
7. Meteorites differ in chemical and geologic properties from planetary and lunar rocks, but may be similar in composition to asteroids and small moons.
8. Planets and most asteroids rotate with similar periods, about 5 to 10 hours, unless obvious tidal forces slow them, as in the case of the Earth and Venus.

9. The distances of the planets from the Sun obey the simple Bode’s Law.

10. Planet-satellite systems resemble miniature solar systems.

11. Cometary orbits, as a group, define a large, almost spherical, cloud around the Solar System.

12. The Sun contains 99% of the mass in the Solar System.

13. The planets, not the Sun, contain nearly all the angular momentum of the Solar System.