

In It Together: Mentorship for Improved AAC Service Delivery

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Disclosures



Jaime is employed by New Horizons Regional Education Centers.
Meredith is employed by West Coast University.

Jaime is a member of ASHA, ASHA S.I.G. 12, and SHAV.
Meredith is a member of ASHA, USSAAC, and ASHA S.I.G 10 and 12.

Today's Agenda



Learning Objectives



Identify two opportunity barriers to AAC service delivery reported by speech-language pathologists.

01



Describe at least three components to successful mentorship relationships.

02



Describe at least three strategies to implement AAC mentorship in the clinical setting.

03

What is the *good news*?

Step
01

State of
Speech-
Language
Pathology



- Pre-professional students are frequently participating in dedicated AAC courses.
 - 2005 → 62%
 - 2014 → 73%
 - 2019 → 86%
- Students are learning with a variety of instructional tools.
 - Textbook and journal articles
 - Online learning modules
 - Webinars and videos
 - Laboratory instruction

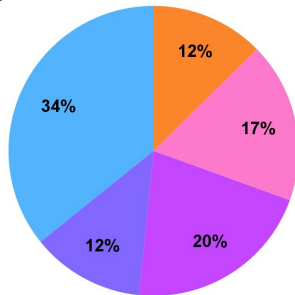
Johnson & Prebor, 2019
Ratcliff & Beukelman, 1995
Ratcliff et al., 2008

What is the *bad news*?

Step
01

- Students' participation in dedicated AAC courses does not result in consistent and adequate preparation for AAC service delivery.

State of
Speech-
Language
Pathology



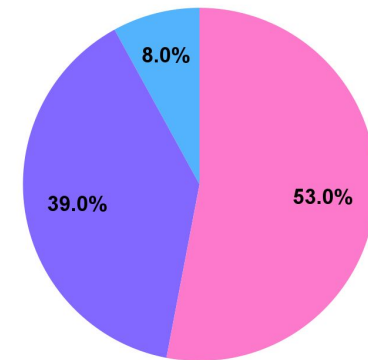
● Unsure ● <25% ● 26-50% ● 51-75% ● 76-100%

Johnson & Prebor, 2019

SLPs' Barriers to AAC Service Delivery (AAC Systems)

Step
01

State of
Speech-
Language
Pathology



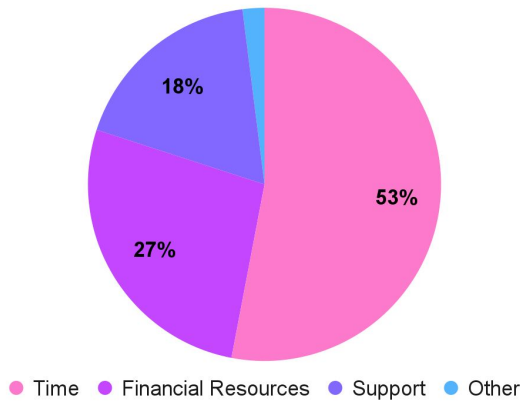
● Knowledge ● Availability ● Other

Gohsman & Johnson, 2022
Johnson & Gohsman, 2022

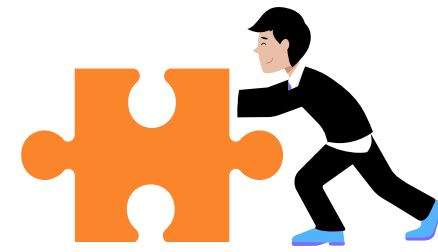
SLPs' Barriers to AAC Service Delivery (Resources)

Step
01

State of
Speech-
Language
Pathology

Gohsman & Johnson, 2022
Johnson & Gohsman, 2022



Step
01

State of
Speech-
Language
Pathology



Reflect & Share

What learning experiences were most impactful for your preparation to deliver AAC services?

Building Capacity among SLPs

Step
01

State of
Speech-
Language
Pathology



- Not everyone feels adequately prepared to provide AAC services.
- Most SLPs are “general practitioners.”
- SLPs learn through:
 - On-the-job experiences
 - Self-study
 - Continuing education
 - And more!

ATIA, 2011
Gohsman & Johnson, 2022
Iacono & Cameron, 2009
Marvin et al., 2003
Simpson et al., 1999
Sutherland et al., 2005
Wormnaes & Abdel Malek, 2004

Building Capacity among SLPs

Step
01

State of
Speech-
Language
Pathology



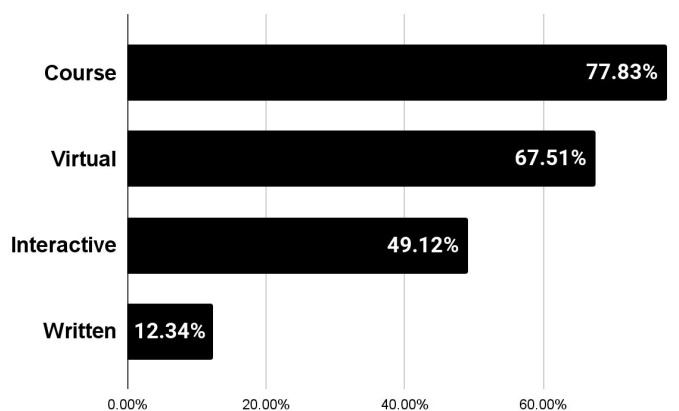
- **81.2%** of SLPs plan to participate in AAC-related continuing education and post-professional training.
- **80%** of “daily use AAC” SLPs learned through on-the-job training.

Gohsman & Johnson, 2022
Marvin et al., 2003

SLPs' Learning Preferences

Step
01

State of
Speech-
Language
Pathology

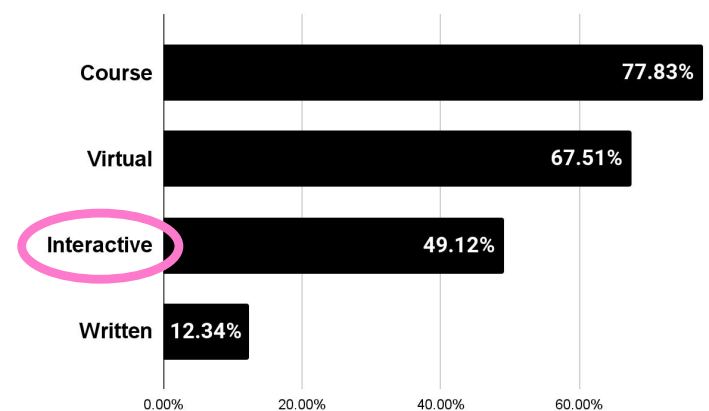


Gohsman & Johnson, 2022

SLPs' Learning Preferences

Step
01

State of
Speech-
Language
Pathology



Gohsman & Johnson, 2022

Mentorship as Defined by ASHA

Step
02

Qualities of
Mentorship



“Mentoring is a developmental partnership through which one person shares knowledge, skills, information, and perspective to foster the personal and professional growth of someone else.”

ASHA, 2024

Mentorship: Capacity, Confidence, and Relationship

Step
02

Qualities of
Mentorship



Reported to be the single most important route to proficiency in AAC and AT

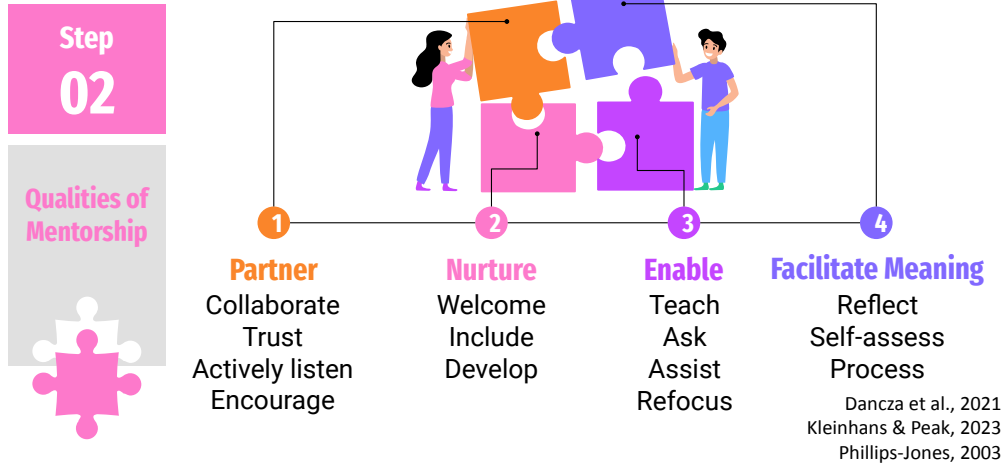
SLPs' confidence is impacted by the gaps in the scope of practice vs. the scope of competencies

Consistent with an interdisciplinary and collaborative approach

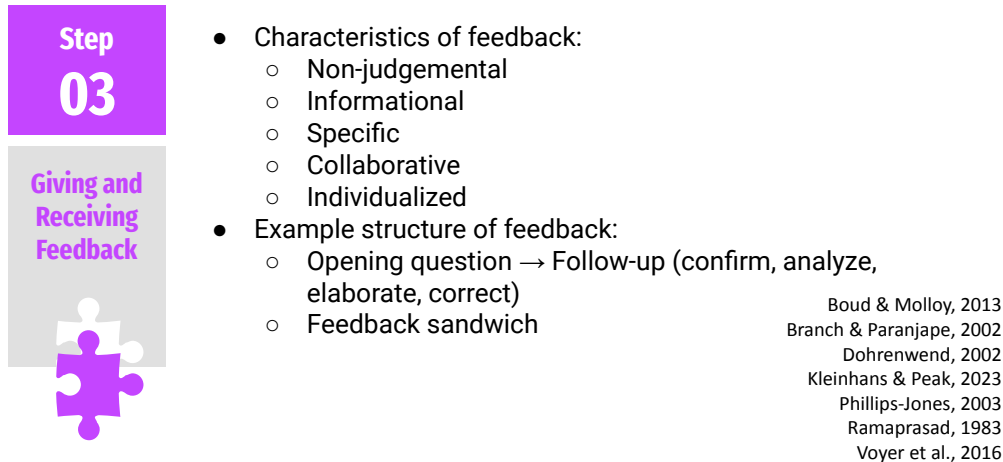
Builds upon SLPs' desire for interactive learning opportunities

ATIA, 2011
SLP Nerdcast, 2021

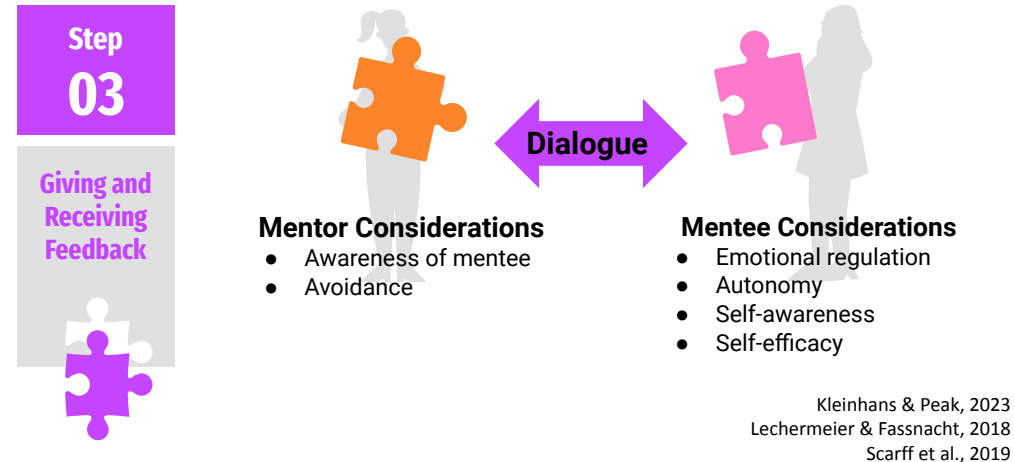
Four Domains of the Relationship



Feedback to Increase Effectiveness

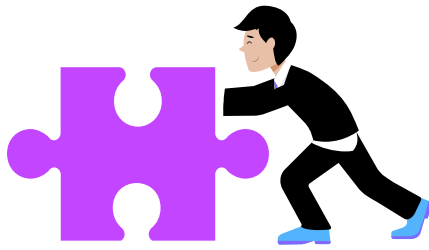


Dialogue vs. Monologue



Step 03

Giving and Receiving Feedback



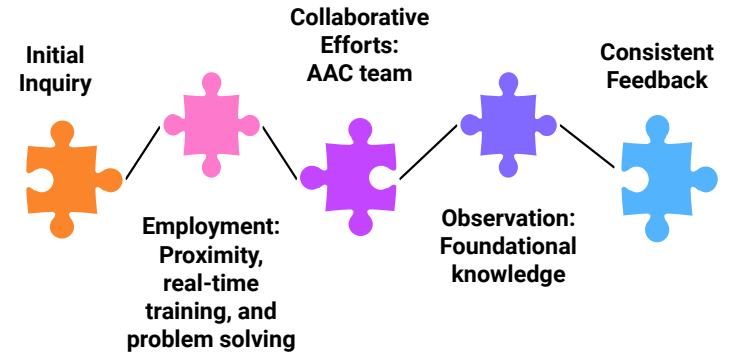
Reflect & Share

Share an example of memorable feedback you have received.

Our Journey: First Steps...

Step 04

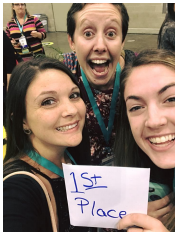
Our Mentorship Journey



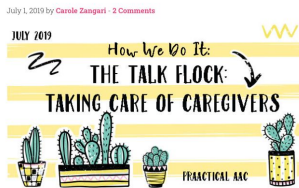
From Then... (in Pictures)

Step 04

Our Mentorship Journey



How We Do It: The Talk Flock – Taking Care of Caregivers



...To Now (in Pictures)

Step 04

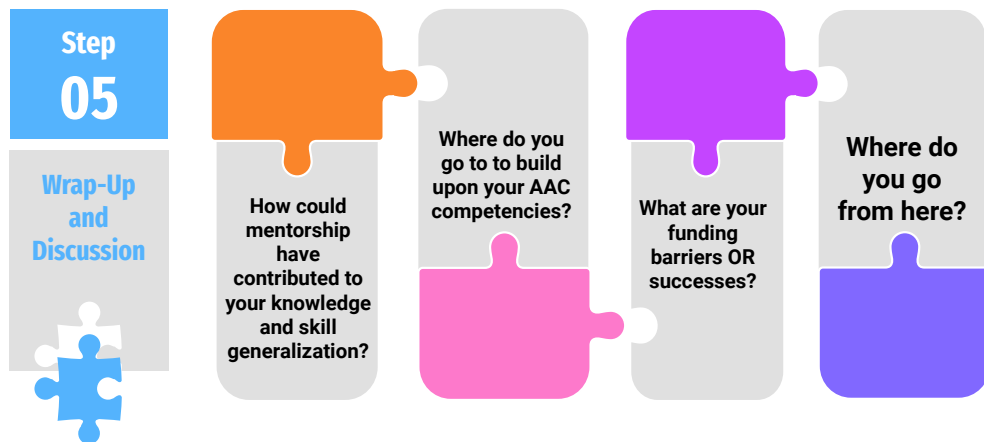
Our Mentorship Journey



AAC in the Cloud Presentation Session
[Back to the Session List](#)

Jaime Lawson, Melonie Melton, & Heather Patton: The Power of One SLP-- What Can't We Do?
June 20, 1pm ET, 1 participation credit

Let's Chat



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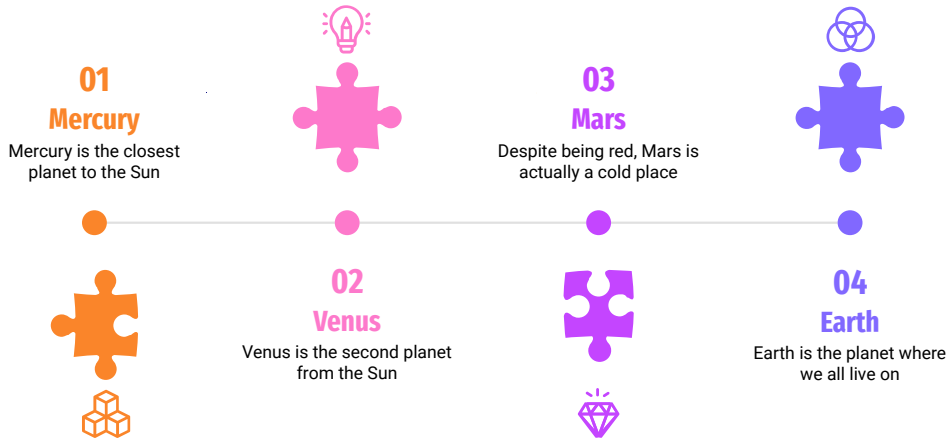
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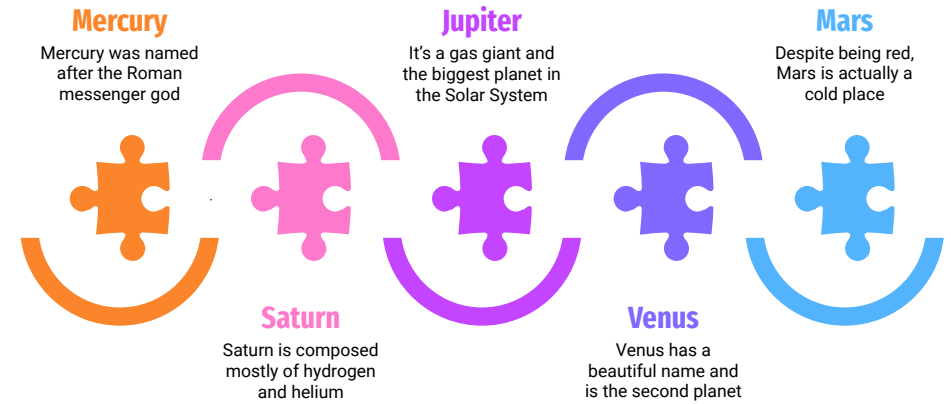
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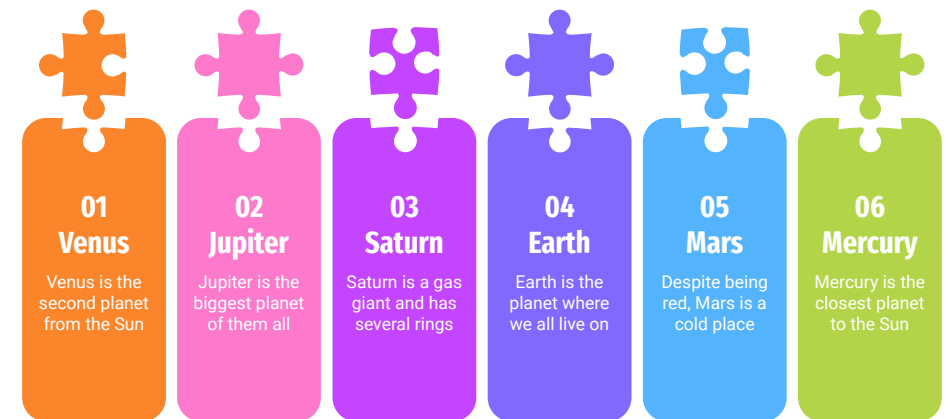
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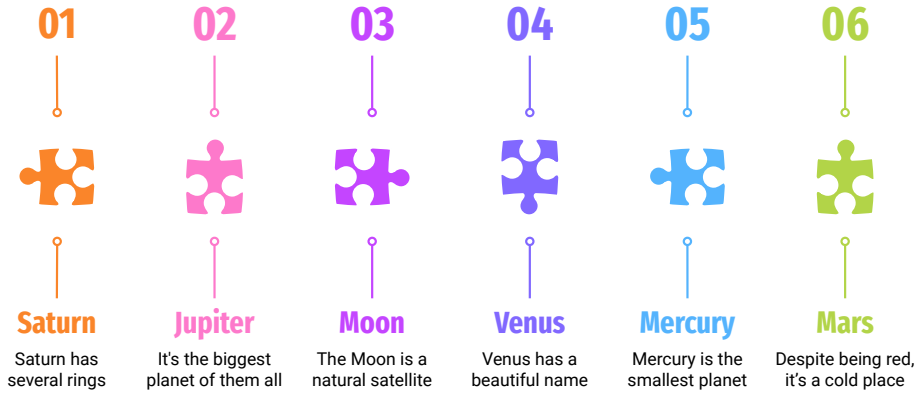
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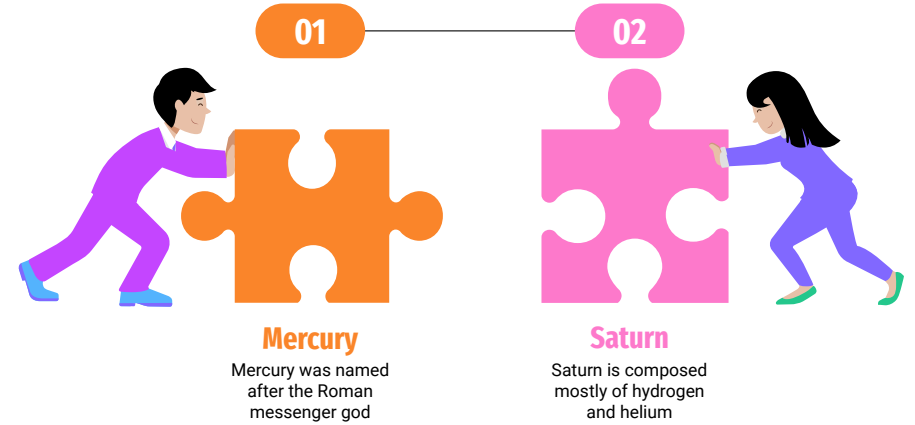
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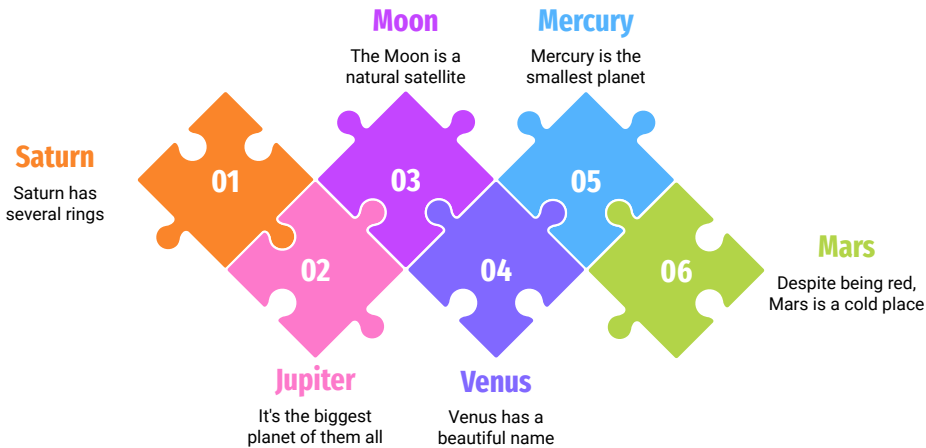
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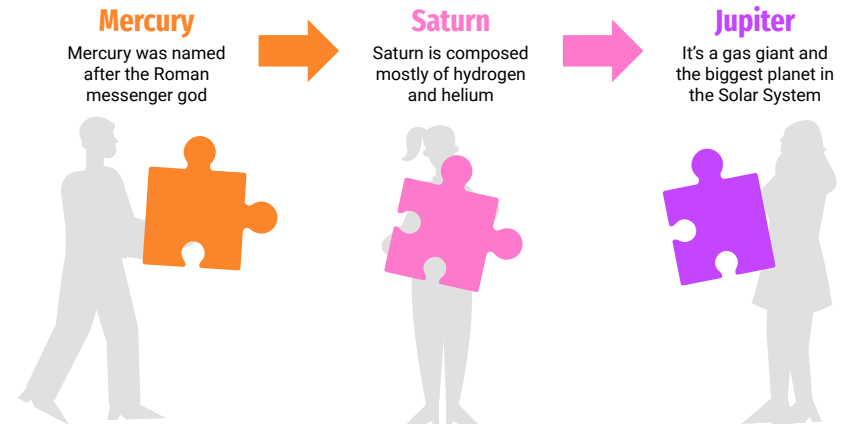
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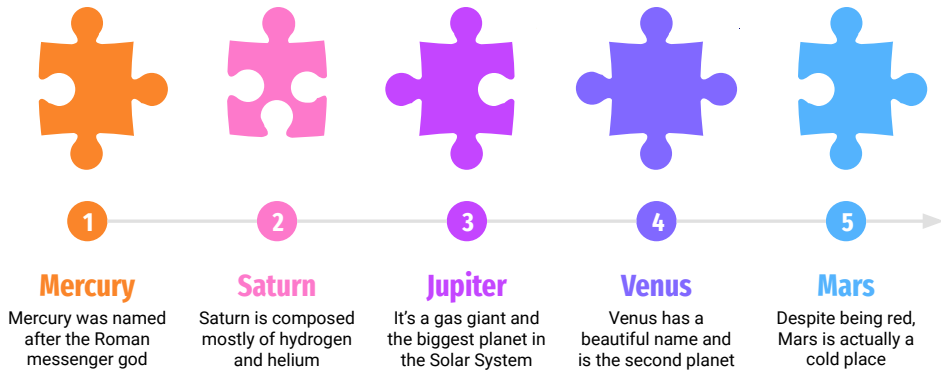
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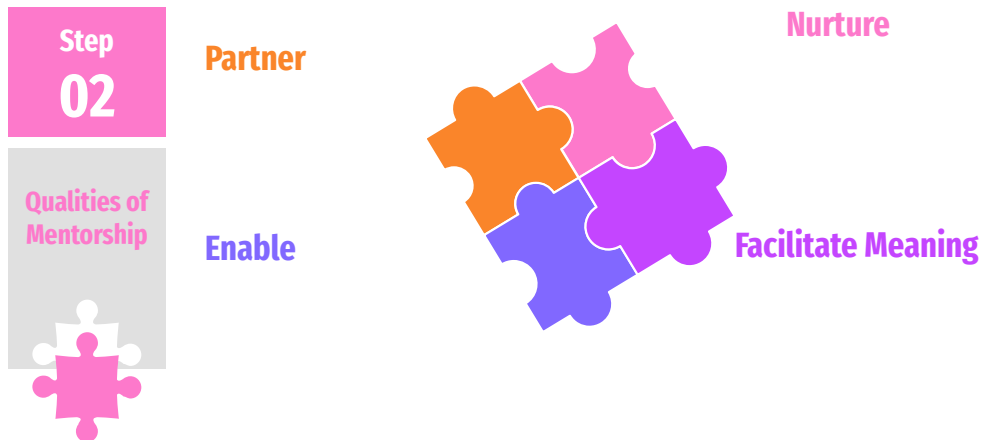
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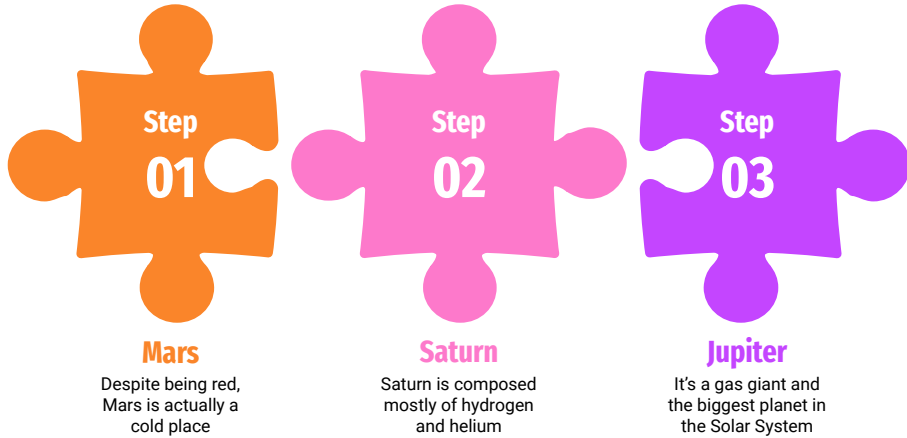
Four Domains of the Relationship



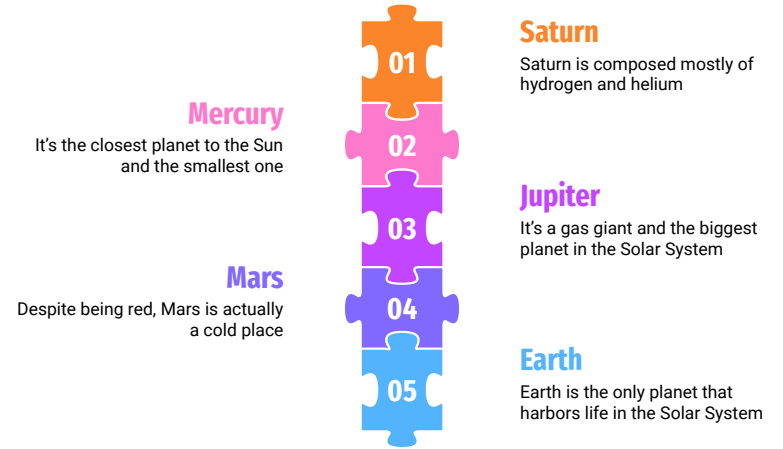
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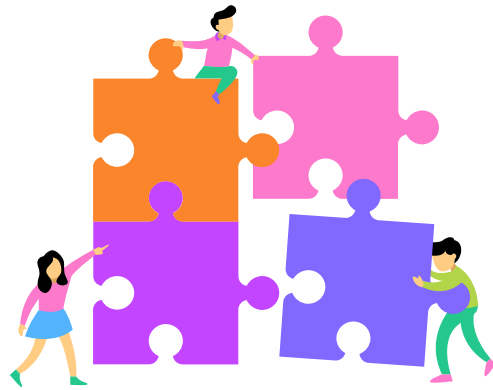
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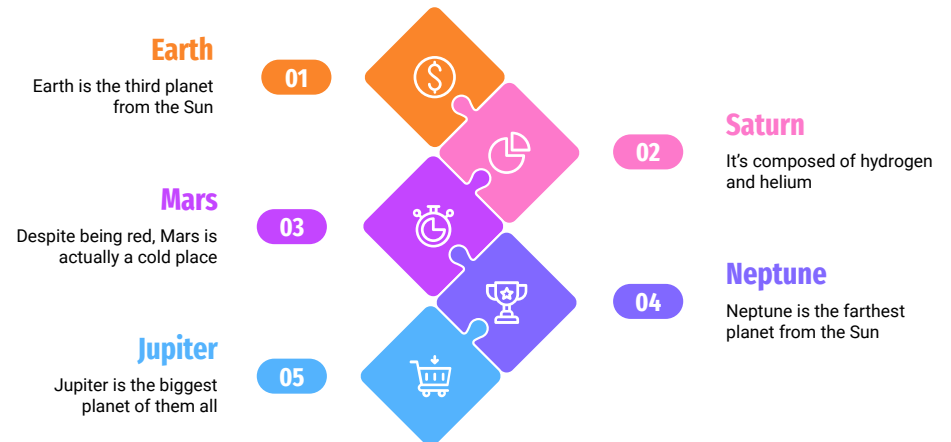
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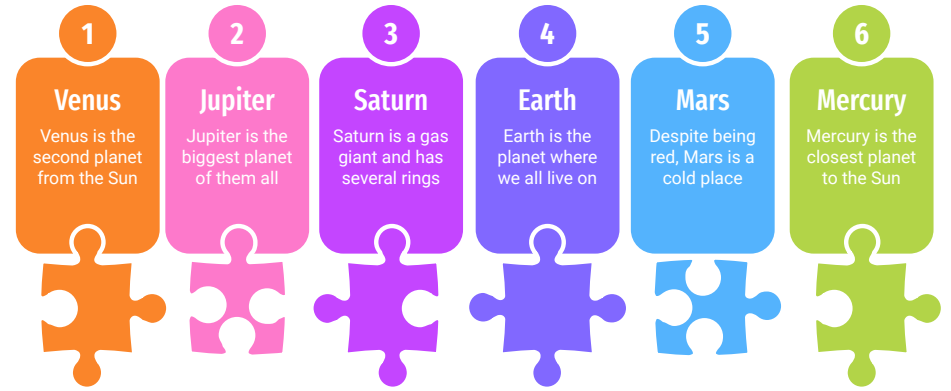
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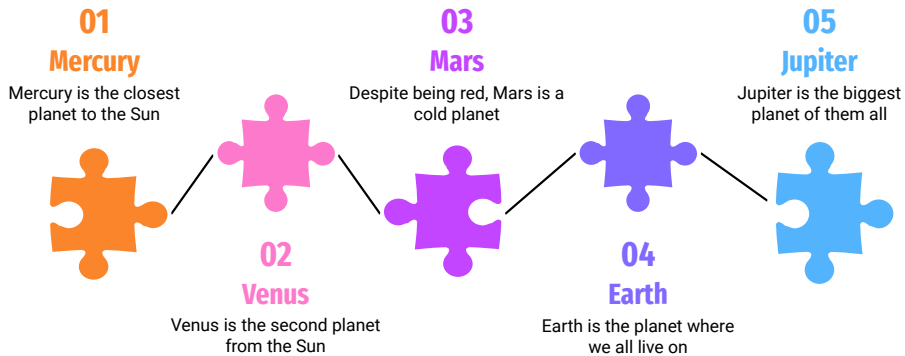
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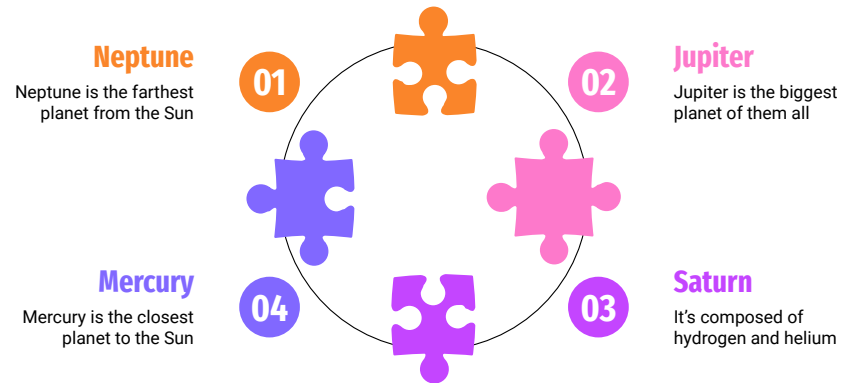
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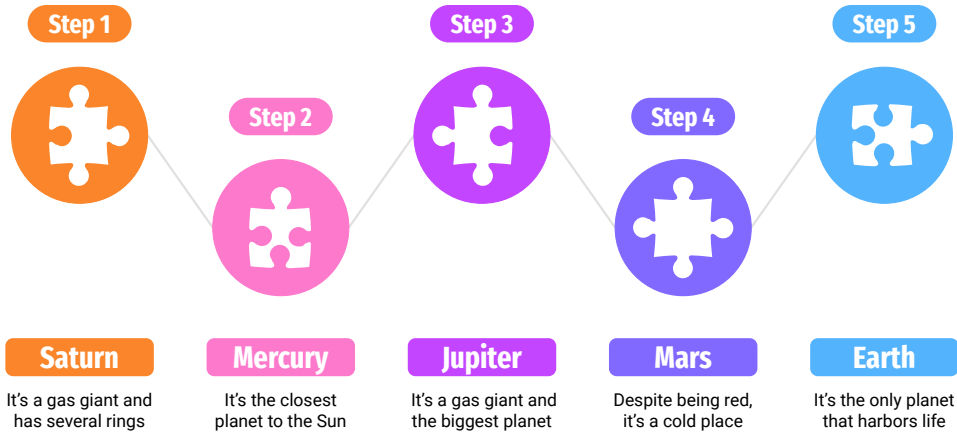
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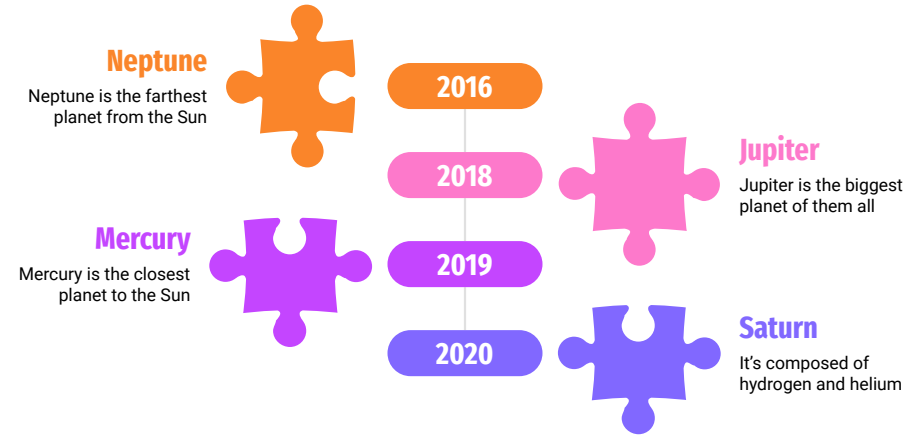
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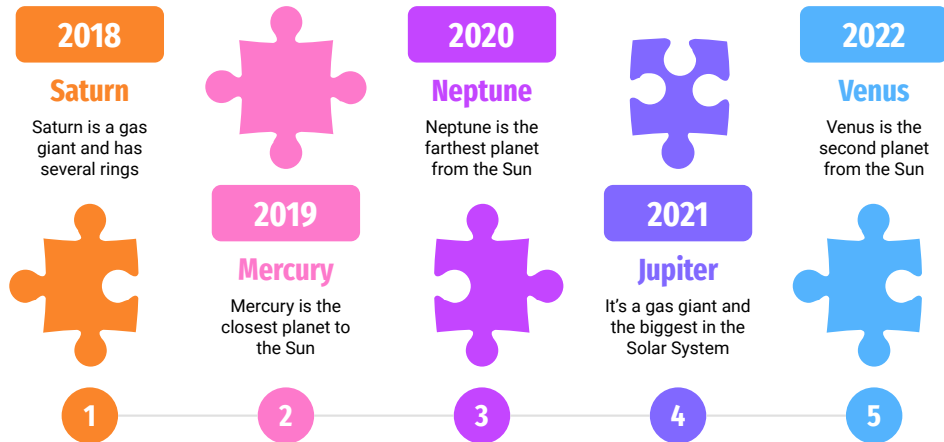
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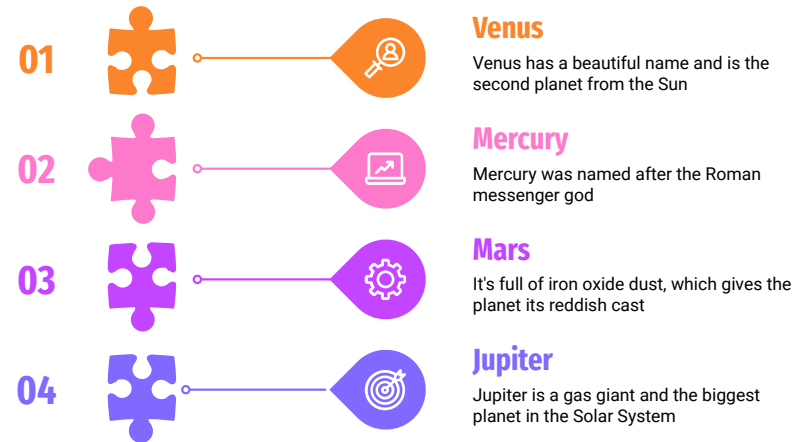
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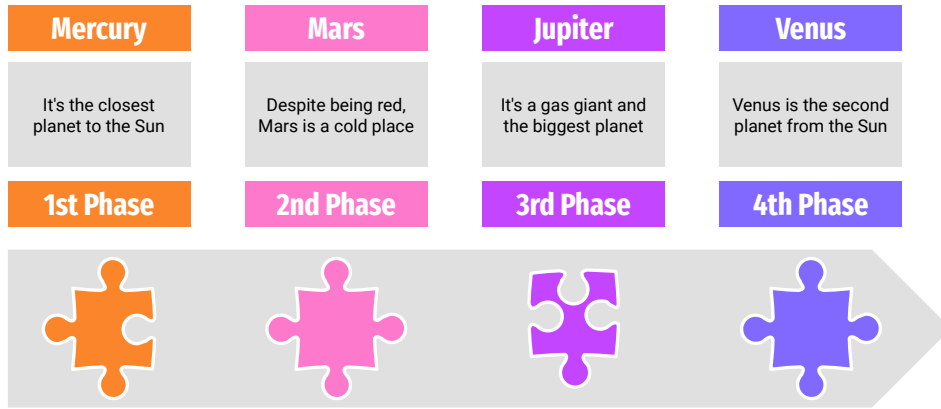
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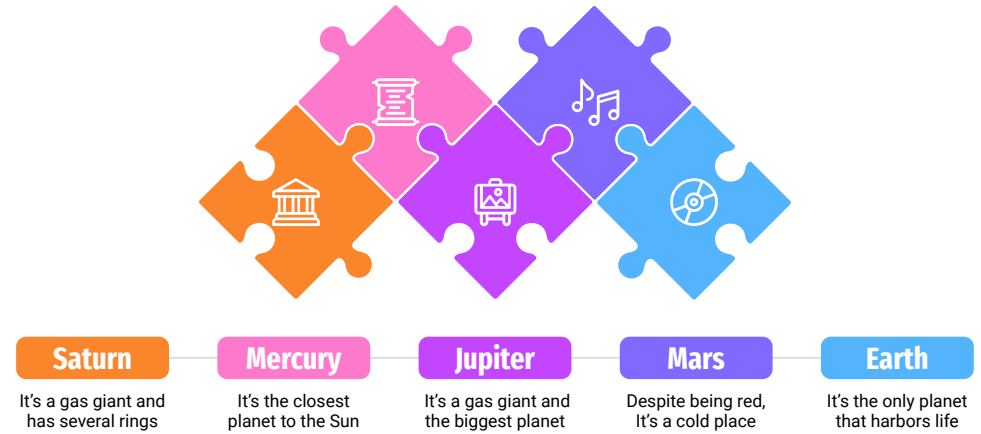
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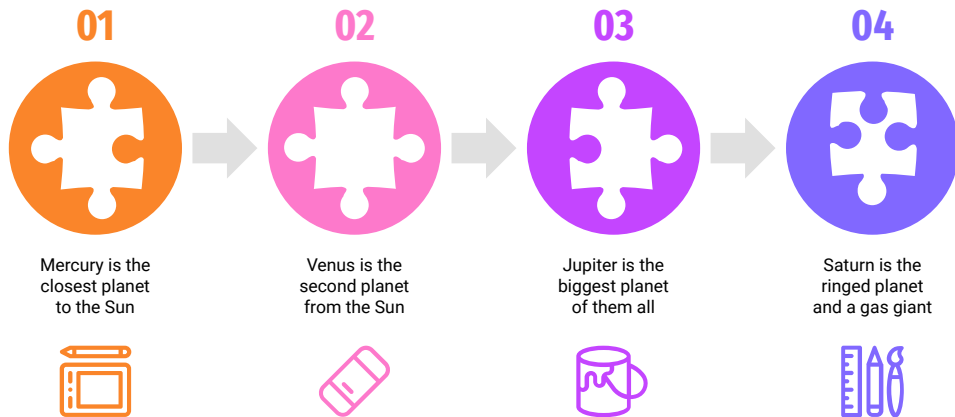
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