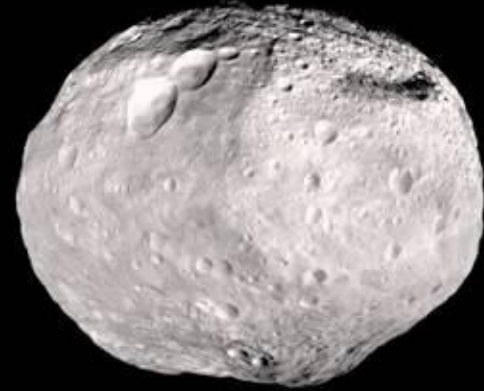
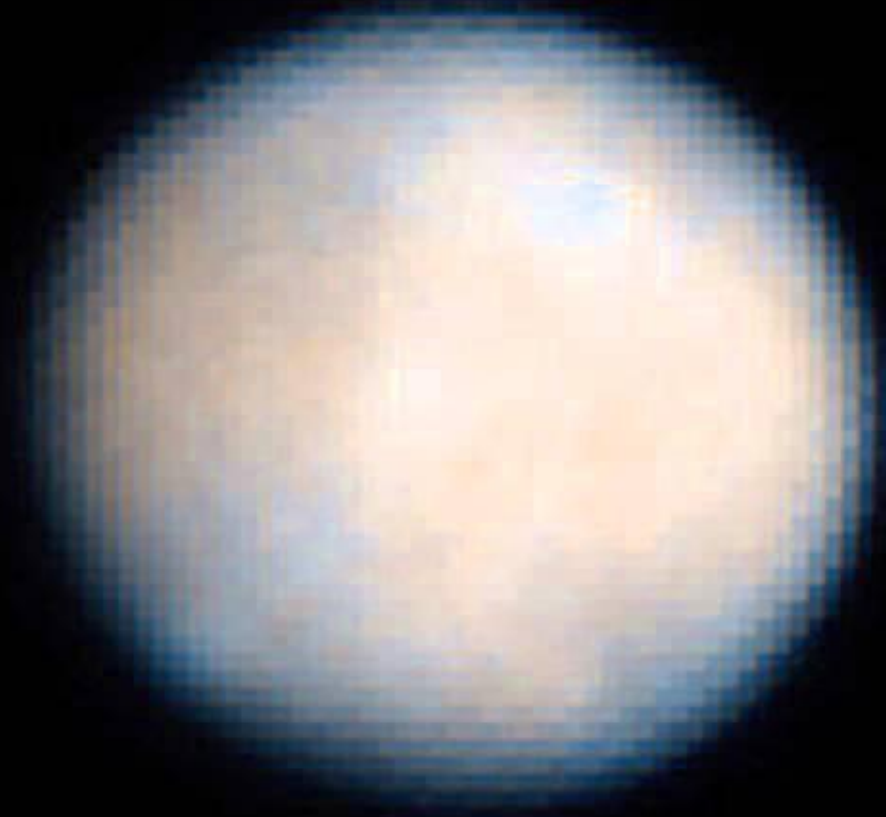


sizes proportionate



Pallas

Vesta

Juno

Ceres

(now designated "dwarf planet")

1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:02,000
Music.

2
00:00:02,000 --> 00:00:07,000
Jane Houston Jones: What's Up for June. A planetary trio at sunset plus asteroids you can see.

3
00:00:07,000 --> 00:00:13,000
Hello and welcome. I'm Jane Houston Jones at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California.

4
00:00:13,000 --> 00:00:19,000
The month begins with a gorgeous trio of planets: Mercury, Venus and Jupiter,

5
00:00:19,000 --> 00:00:23,000
low on the west-northwest horizon on June 1 and 2.

6
00:00:23,000 --> 00:00:30,000
As the month progresses, Jupiter slips into the sunset while Mercury and Venus rise higher in the sky.

7
00:00:30,000 --> 00:00:33,000
Music.

8
00:00:33,000 --> 00:00:39,000
Jones: Asteroid 1998 QE2, which safely passed by the Earth on May 31,

9
00:00:39,000 --> 00:00:43,000
is visible in the night skies through small and medium telescopes this month.

10
00:00:43,000 --> 00:00:49,000
Amateur astronomers looking towards the constellations Libra and Ophiucus the first week of June

11
00:00:49,000 --> 00:00:53,000
can watch it move about the diameter of a full moon in an hour and a half.

12
00:00:53,000 --> 00:00:56,000
Music.

13
00:00:56,000 --> 00:01:03,000

Jones: On June 11 we might witness the return of a rare meteor shower called the Gamma Delphinids

14

00:01:03,000 --> 00:01:07,000

radiating from the tiny dolphin-shaped constellation Delphinus.

15

00:01:07,000 --> 00:01:10,000

The best part of the sky to watch is usually an area

16

00:01:10,000 --> 00:01:13,000

about 30 degrees away from the radiant point of the shower.

17

00:01:13,000 --> 00:01:16,000

Music.

18

00:01:16,000 --> 00:01:20,000

Jones: The first four asteroids ever discovered: Ceres, Vesta, Pallas and Juno

19

00:01:20,000 --> 00:01:26,000

are all visible this month and are all about magnitude 8 or 9, requiring binoculars or telescopes.

20

00:01:26,000 --> 00:01:34,000

These four are Main Belt asteroids. That means they orbit only in the area between Mars and Jupiter

21

00:01:34,000 --> 00:01:36,000

so they pose no threat to Earth.

22

00:01:36,000 --> 00:01:41,000

Ceres and Vesta can be found near the stars of the constellation Gemini.

23

00:01:41,000 --> 00:01:46,000

Pallas is only visible from the Southern Hemisphere before dawn this month.

24

00:01:46,000 --> 00:01:51,000

Juno can be found among the stars of Aquarius, as can asteroid Bamberga.

25

00:01:51,000 --> 00:01:57,000

Asteroid 324 Bamberga is the 15th-largest asteroid as measured by its diameter,

26

00:01:57,000 --> 00:02:01,000

but it was one of the last large asteroids to be discovered

27

00:02:01,000 --> 00:02:07,000

nearly a hundred years after the first 4 were discovered in the early 1800's.

28

00:02:07,000 --> 00:02:12,000

Wrap up the month with a trip out of town. By month-end the moon will not rise until midnight,

29

00:02:12,000 --> 00:02:19,000

and you'll have a great view of the Milky Way rising in the East, spanning the sky from horizon to horizon.

30

00:02:19,000 --> 00:02:25,000

You can read about asteroid news and features at [j p l dot nasa dot gov slash asteroidwatch](http://jp1.nasa.gov/asteroidwatch).

31

00:02:25,000 --> 00:02:31,000

And you can learn about all of NASA's missions at [w w w dot nasa dot gov](http://www.nasa.gov).