Travel Agent for the Solar System

Introduction
You are in charge of the new “Travel the Solar System” account at Universe Travel Agency. Your research tells you that people are tired of going to the same old places like Antarctica, the Amazon, and Mt. Everest. They want new adventures that are “out of this world” and into “outer space”. Your assignment is to design and create a brochure advertising travel to one of the planets or comets in our solar system.

Task
Your task is to create a travel brochure like you might find in a travel agency. Keep in mind the make-up and special features of your destination, take into account the environmental conditions, and think about some of the recreational activities or sightseeing that could be possible there. Remember, you are trying to convince the public that your destination is the best place to go on vacation! Your brochure must include the following:

• Name of destination
• Mythology
• Distance from the Sun
• Surface temperature range
• Orbital period (length of year in Earth days)
• Rotational period (length of day in Earth hours or days)
• Main components of the atmosphere
• Gravity
• Moons (just the main ones)
• Rings
• Key attractions (volcanoes, hurricanes, craters, storms etc.)
• Any other interesting facts that visitors should be aware of
• Create or modify a sport or activity that you can show on the brochure. Make sure to use the characteristics of the planet or its moons. Choose a sport that would be conducive or best fit for your planet or one of its moons. If none exist then be creative and make one up using the attributes of the planet.
• Graphics - include at least 5 pictures
• 2 Current Event articles from reliable sources: science magazines or newspapers (current within the last year). These current events should be about something you have highlighted or discussed in your brochure. You should have read these and be able to answer questions about them!
• Works Cited - at least 3 resources listed on your brochure in MLA format

**Destination Possibilities**
Jupiter (moons to cover Io, Europa, Callisto, and Ganymede), Saturn (moons to cover Mimas, Titan, Rhea and Iapetus), Uranus (moons to cover Miranda, Umbriel, Titania and Ariel), Neptune (moons to cover Triton and Nereid), A Tour of the Dwarf Planets (include at least 2, one must be Pluto, you must include the definition of a dwarf planet), A Tour of Some Comets (Halley's Comet, Comet Kohoutek, Shoemaker-Levy Comet).
We will be picking randomly in class today!!

**Evaluation**
Your commission (grade) depends on the following:
• Creativity – creative use of solar system information to describe a vacation setting; creative title. **15 points**
• Content – all accurate facts are displayed on the brochure. **25 points**
• Graphics – at least 5 pictures that illustrate your destination highlights **10 points**
• A sport or activity explained that would best fit your planet **15 points**
• Current Event articles that are relevant to your travel brochure. **16 points**
• Attractiveness – attractive in terms of neatness and design layout. **10 points**
• Grammar/spelling/mechanics – must be correct. **10 points**
• Works Cited – at least 3 resources listed **9 points**
• Presentation – must be interesting, informative, and persuasive- BOTH PARTNERS MUST PARTICIPATE – must be 3 to 5 minutes- you can be creative here!! Sell us your planet or comet! **20 points**
• Partner Evaluation - I need to know how the work was divided up amongst the partners. I will be watching the work in class but the sheets need to filled out and handed in on the presentation date. **5 points**

**Total 135 POINTS**
Suggested websites to start with:
http://www.solarviews.com/eng/homepage.htm
http://starchild.gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/StarChild/
http://seds.lpl.arizona.edu/nineplanets/nineplanets.html

Brochure Templates
You may “cut and paste” a brochure on plain paper, or you can create one on the computer. Brochure templates are available through Microsoft Word, Microsoft Publisher.
You have to have something that will be printed out and given to your classmates so they have information to study for the test.

Time Line
We will have 3 class periods to work on this (11/12, 11/16, 11/18 for periods 6 and 8 and 11/13, 11/17, 11/19 for per 5). The presentations will take place on 11/20 for periods 6 and 8 and 11/23 for period 5.