

Is Pluto a Planet or a Dwarf Planet? The Results are in!

Do you agree with the International Astronomical Union's decision to demote Pluto from a planet to a dwarf planet? The Needham Science Center (part of Needham Public Schools) asked Astronomy Day attendees to vote on that question. Here are the results:

Pluto is a Planet: 68 votes

Pluto is a Dwarf Planet: 32 votes

More than half of the voters would like Pluto returned to full planethood!

Here are some reasons why people voted the way they did:

“Pluto is a Planet” supporters wrote:

“I think it is a planet because it is big enough.”

“We’ve had it since 1930 and it is not right to throw it out of the solar system.”

“It still orbits the sun.”

“Size doesn’t matter!”

“Because it has been a planet all my life and I like it that way!”

“Pluto is a Dwarf Planet” supporters wrote:

“If we counted all the KBO’s (Kuiper Belt Objects) as planets, we would have thousands.”

“Because there are larger minor planets than Pluto.”

“Because it’s way too small.”

“Because if an asteroid hit it, it would go out of orbit.”

Thank you to everyone who voted! We loved reading all of your thoughts about Pluto!