

Grades: 3-5

Objective: In these activities, students will develop and use models of Earth's solar system to show the location and order of the planets as they orbit the Sun and the main composition (rock or gas) of the planets.

Sources: Rock Hill Science Education



Solar System Overview

BACKGROUND: Astronomy is the study of objects in our solar system and beyond. A solar system includes a sun, (star), and all other objects that orbit that sun.

ACTIVITY #1: Show students both of the solar system videos below. As they watch each video, ask them to write down 12 things they learn about the solar system. Is there anything they learned from the video that is different from what they expected or originally thought?



Here Comes the Sun Crash Course Kids 5.1 https://youtu.be/6FB0rDsR_rc



Solar System 101
National Geographic
https://youtu.be/libKVRa01L8

ACTIVITY #2: Have students complete and color the Solar System Scramble (see page 2). They should color the planets and interstellar bodies appropriately and mark which planets are terrestrial and which are gas planets.

ACTIVITY #3: Have students read the information here:

https://www.universetoday.com/33415/interesting-facts-about-the-planets. They can use the graphic organizer on page 3 to take notes. They should then completed the table on page 4.



What Did I Learn?

Use this organizer to record the main ideas and important facts from each paragraph.

	Paragraph 1
	Paragraph 2
	Paragraph 3
	Paragraph 4
	Paragraph 5
F	Paragraph 6
Po	aragraph 7
Po	aragraph 8

Name _

				Neptune
				Uranus
				Saturn
				Jupiter
				Mars
				Earth
				Venus
				Mercury
Fun Facts	Terrestrial or Gas Planet?	Number of Moons	Number from the Sun	Planet Name