

Objective

By the end of this lesson, you will have a better understanding of the solar system and its components.

Materials and Prep

Materials needed: Pen, paper, computer with internet access.

Prior knowledge: Basic understanding of the planets in our solar system.

Activities

- **Create a Scale Model:** Research the sizes and distances of the planets in our solar system and create a scale model on paper. Use a scale like 1 cm = 1,000 km.
- **Planet Fact Sheets:** Choose three planets and create fact sheets for each. Include information like size, distance from the sun, number of moons, and any interesting facts.
- **Solar System Quiz:** Test your knowledge with a fun quiz about the solar system. Include questions about the order of the planets, their characteristics, and any recent discoveries.

Talking Points

- **The Sun:** "The Sun is the star at the center of our solar system. It provides light and heat to all the planets."
- **Planets:** "There are eight planets in our solar system. They orbit the Sun in a specific order based on their distance from it."
- **Mercury:** "Mercury is the closest planet to the Sun and is known for its extreme temperature variations."
- **Mars:** "Mars is often called the 'Red Planet' due to its reddish appearance. It has the largest volcano and canyon in the solar system."
- **Moons:** "Many planets have moons that orbit around them. Earth has one moon, while Jupiter has over 70!"