

## Objective

By the end of this lesson, you will be able to identify and describe the different planets in our solar system.

## Materials and Prep

- A large poster or printouts of the solar system
- Colored pencils or markers
- A notebook or paper

Before the lesson, make sure to familiarize yourself with the names and characteristics of the planets in our solar system.

## Activities

1. Create a Solar System Poster: Use the colored pencils or markers to draw and color each planet on the poster. Label each planet with its name.
2. Write a Planet Fact Book: In your notebook or on a separate piece of paper, create a fact book about the planets. Write one interesting fact about each planet and draw a small picture to go along with it.
3. Planet Scavenger Hunt: Hide small pictures or cutouts of the planets around your learning area. Give clues to your child to find each planet. Once they find a planet, have them describe its color and size.

## Talking Points

- The solar system is made up of the sun and all the objects that orbit around it.
- There are eight planets in our solar system: Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune.
- The sun is the biggest and brightest object in our solar system. It gives us light and heat.
- Mercury is the closest planet to the sun. It is very hot and has no atmosphere.
- Venus is the second planet from the sun. It is known as Earth's "sister planet" because it is similar in size, but it has a thick atmosphere that traps heat, making it very hot.
- Earth is our home planet. It is the only planet known to have life.
- Mars is often called the "Red Planet" because it has a reddish color. Scientists are interested in Mars because they think it might have had water and could have supported life in the past.
- Jupiter is the largest planet in our solar system. It is a gas giant with a big red spot called the Great Red Spot.

- Saturn is known for its beautiful rings made of ice and rocks.
- Uranus and Neptune are both ice giants. They are very cold and have a bluish color.