

The Solar System

Grades 1-5

Overview 	The purpose of this lesson is to teach students about the planets, moons, comets and asteroids that make up our solar system.
Objective	After learning about the Solar System, students should be able to identify each planet and put them in order from the sun. They should also be able to relay information about each planet along with other objects that make up our solar system.
Students/ Environment	This lesson can easily be done in the classroom. As it is a standard in all states that children need to be able to identify the planets and contents in the solar system, this lesson is perfect for this qualification.
Materials	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Computer with SlideServe presentation- Computer projector- Nine foam circular balls in various sizes (according to how big or small the planet is)- Paint in different colors that correspond with the color of the planets.- Cardboard circle- Wire
Procedure 	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Show the students the SlideServe presentation on the solar system.2. Break students into groups of 4 or 5 students per group.3. Hand out a worksheet with pictures of the planets in color. Have the groups identify them.5. On the same worksheet have the students number the planets using what they have been taught from the presentation.6. Pass out different sizes of the nine foam balls to each group.7. Allow the children to paint each planet according to the handout.8. Construct the mobiles by using a cardboard circle as the top. Hang wire from the cardboard piece.9. Add the planets to the wire in order with the Sun in the middle.
Evaluation	After the solar system mobiles have been completed have each group present their mobile. Have each student tell a fact about one of the planets or about the Solar System in general. Try to not have any repeats.
Sources	This lesson was constructed by the help of: [http://crafts.lovetoknow.com/wiki/Solar_System_Craft_Projects] The SlideServe presentation: [http://www.slideserve.com/presentation/2128/The-Super-Solar-System-By-Laura-Bart]