

## The Orbiting Planets

### 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Science Lesson Plan

Objective:	Students will understand the characteristics and positions of the nine planets in our solar system by creating a three-dimensional depiction and by participating in a survey, which will measure each student's knowledge of the nine planets.
Materials:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Round balloons (9 different sizes)</li> <li>2. Paint</li> <li>3. Paint brushes</li> <li>4. Fishing line or string</li> <li>5. Clips to suspend models from ceiling tiles</li> <li>6. <b>Survey Monkey</b> evaluation form</li> </ol>
Procedure:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Divide students into 9 groups and assign them each a planet.</li> <li>2. Give each group a general description and a picture of their planet.</li> <li>3. Have each group look up the planets on the internet to find more characteristics. They then may paint their balloons according to these observations.</li> <li>4. Have groups present and explain facts about their planets to the class.</li> <li>5. Allow students to complete a survey with <b>Survey Monkey</b> that you previously created with questions about the nine planets.</li> </ol>
Evaluation:	To measure the understanding that each student has about the planets, prepare a survey on Survey Monkey so students will be able to go through the step-by-step process and determine the planets' positions and characteristics. This will enable the teacher to determine if the students understand all necessary components about the nine planets. The teacher will automatically be able to see what each student answered.
Standards Met:	Science as Inquiry NS K-4.1 → Understandings

	about scientific inquiry Earth and Space Science NS K-4.4 → Changes in earth and sky; objects in the sky
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*\*\* Adapted from:*

*<http://school.discoveryeducation.com/lessonplans/programs/classroomplanetarium/> \*\**