

Sci-Map Site

Gainesville Solar Walk

Name of Activity

Relative Size of Planets Walk

Before, While, or After?

While You're There

Materials

Models of the planets you made or printed from the "Before You Go" Activity.

Procedure

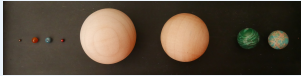
Stand at the Sun obelisk and hold up the beach ball "sun".

Have a partner walk to Mercury and hold up the mini bead. Walk to each planet obelisk and see what model objects would look like if you were standing on the sun.

Stand by the Earth obelisk. Imagine you were in a space ship (which would be microscopic). How difficult would it be to get to Mars especially if both Earth and Mars are moving as they travel around the Sun?

The Science Behind It

There is a lot of space in space. We are 93,000,000 miles away from our sun and yet that is the closest star to us. Our galaxy has many stars but we will never be able even send a space craft to the nearest star in our lifetime. It is hard to imaging how expansive space is and why it is such a big deal that men landed on the moon. This relative size of planet activity along the Gainesville Solar Walk will give a little bit of an idea of how big the universe is and how small we are inside it.

Post Image

3-D model you can make with the "Before You Go" Activity

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