



Today's Academic Adventure:

SPACE

Teaching youth about space and the planets.

** <https://nineplanets.org/tour/>**

Use the link above to tour the universe and use the outline below to describe each planet as you do the tour with the kids.

Activity: Let the kids create their own universe with their own planets. Examples: a Disney universe, a movie universe, a cartoon universe



Mercury

The planet closest to our Sun. It is a small, rocky planet much like our Moon. It is covered with craters and has changed very little from when it was first formed. You can see Mercury with binoculars or with your eyes.

Venus

The second planet from the Sun. Because Venus is similar to Earth, we sometimes call Earth its sister planet. Most of Venus' surface consists of gently rolling plains. It is the brightest 'Star' in the sky.

Earth

The third planet from the Sun. 71% of the Earth's surface is covered with water. Earth is the only planet on which water can exist in liquid form on the surface. Besides being the most interesting and unique of all the planets, our Earth is also the most beautiful.

Mars

The fourth planet from the Sun. It is often referred as the Red Planet. Water erosions show that it used to have water. The southern part of Mars is mostly ancient, cratered highlands. The northern part consists mostly of plains.

Jupiter

The fifth planet from the Sun. Jupiter is also the largest planet. Jupiter does not have a solid surface due to its gaseous composition. The swirls we see are the tops of clouds high in its atmosphere. Jupiter has faint rings like Saturn, but much smaller.

Saturn

The sixth planet from the Sun. Saturn is also the second largest planet. Saturn's nine beautiful rings are made of ice particles, some rocks and dust. Saturn is mainly composed of hydrogen and helium and does not have a solid surface. Sixty-two moons orbit Saturn.

Uranus

The seventh planet from the Sun. Uranus' blue colour is the result of a gas called methane. Uranus has no solid surface. Like other gas planets, Uranus has rings. Uranus' rings are very dark like Jupiter's rings.

Neptune

The eighth planet from the Sun. Neptune's blue colour is the result of a gas called methane. Neptune has rapid winds trapped in bands which are the fastest in the solar system, reaching 2000 km per hour. Neptune also has very dark and very fast rings.