

Solar System Bead Activity

(modified from an activity from the Mars Activities Book created by the ASU Mars Education Program)

Materials

- Planet beads (large craft pony beads in 11 colors)
 - Sun yellow
 - Mercury solid red
 - Venus ivory or white
 - Earth clear blue
 - Mars clear red
 - Asteroid belt black
 - Jupiter orange
 - Saturn clear gold
 - Uranus dark blue
 - Neptune light blue
 - Kuiper Belt brown or white
- 1 meters of string for each student
- Meter sticks or measuring device

Procedure

1. Convert the various AU distances to centimeters and complete the chart on the student hand-out sheet.
2. Measure and cut a piece of string *at least* two meters long. Fold the string over so, when you start, your string will be one meter long. This helps you tie knots easier at each planet.
3. Using the calculated cm distances, tie the bead onto the string using a double knot.