

Sensory Activities – Stargazers – Space and the Solar System



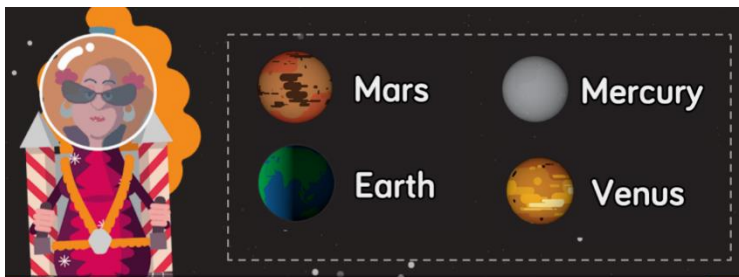
Find a dark piece of material to lay out. This will make the space background.

If you have a sand box or sand tray you could make the shapes of the orbits in the sand or make these from playdoh or string. If you are good at sewing you could stitch these.

Find spherical or round objects around the house to make the different planets.



Think of the way space looks when you look at the night sky. It has contrasts in colour with dark and shiny, smooth and spikey. Use a bowl to collect objects that remind you of the night sky. You can cut out shapes, contrast colours find different shapes. Discuss this with an adult. Take a photograph.

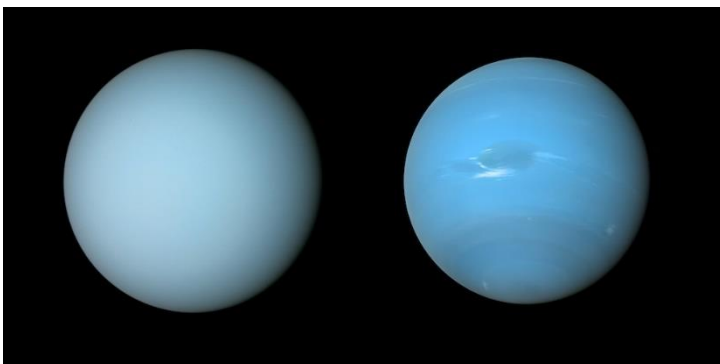


Mars, Mercury, Earth and Venus are all made of rock. With the help of an adult get a smooth stone from the garden (make sure it is washed and clean) what happens if the stone is left out in the cold? What does it feel like? What happens if you bring the rock into the warm and hold it in your hands or put it in warm water?

How does the rock feel? Does it warm up or stay cold? This exercise can be done with plastic balls as stones in a bowl of water and then ice in a bowl of water.

Neptune and Uranus are made of ice. What happens if you hold a piece of ice in your hand? Does it feel lovely and smooth and warm like the stone did? If you make it cold again will it still have the same shape? How does the ice feel?

Is the sun hot or cold? Do you think the ice planets are near the sun or far away from the sun?



There are some more sensory ideas on the explore sheet. Try going for an evening walk to look at the stars and moon in the night sky.