



# Discovery solar system model instructions

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Clouds, shade, indirect sunlight, bulbs lower than 100w or fluorescent lights will limit ...

Explore space and beyond with the Discovery solar system model! introduce your child to the planets, stars and galaxies through the act of building then discussing the different features of each Planet and where it belongs in our universe. Build it together and create a three-dimensional mobile or build diorama to display in their bedroom or playroom. Glow-In-The-Dark stars and paints are included, so the fun doesn't stop when the lights go out! this kit is recommended for scientific explorers ages 8 and up.

This article was co-authored by Jessie Antonellis-John. Jessie Antonellis-John is a Math and Science Instructor who teaches at Southwestern Oregon Community College. With over 10 years of experience, she specializes in curriculum development. Jessie earned her PhD in Teaching & Teacher Education from the University of Arizona, her Master of Education from Western Governors University, and her BS in Astrophysics from Mount Holyoke College. She's also co-authored several peer-reviewed journal articles in professional publications. There are 8 references cited in this article, which can be found at the bottom of the page. This article has been viewed 433,585 times.

There are eight known planets orbiting our sun, including Earth. Making a model is a fun introduction to this solar system, and a good art project for primary school science classes. This detailed example can take a few hours to make, but most of that involves waiting for paint or clay to dry.

Paint a cardboard box black to represent outer space. Gather 9 polystyrene or clay balls of different sizes to represent the sun and the planets. Paint them accordingly, then run a thread through their centers and tape the end to the box to hang the planets. Position the planets around the sun in the correct order.

Thanks for reading our article! If you'd like to learn more about science, check out our in-depth interview with Jessie Antonellis-John.

Explore the natural world through science and sustainability

Looking for a step-by-step guide to building a 3D solar system model that is perfect for young learners to create? Read on to learn how my daughter and I made a rotating solar system model with simple materials we already had in our house!

This post contains affiliate links.

When my daughter came home from school with the news that she needed to build a solar system model for

science class, she read aloud the list of requirements that her model needed to meet. Here are the requirements for her model:

After doing a little research, she chose to step up her design game and make the model move, simulating the rotation of each planet around the sun. In actuality, planets rotate in elliptical orbits around the sun, however for simplicity, she chose to make circular orbits. Once she had her design idea in place, we began rummaging through the house to find the materials she would to bring her 3D solar system model to life.

Starting from the closest planet to the Sun and moving outwards, the order and names of the planets in our solar system are:

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