

EXPLORING THE SOLAR SYSTEM

GEORGIA STANDARDS OF EXCELLENCE:
S4E1d and S4E2abc, S6e1c and S6e2abc

4th and 6th Grades



DESCRIPTION

All students will participate in a kinetic activity in the lab that will examine the orbital paths of the inner planets. Students will learn the order of the planets, explain why planets appear to move backwards at times, and identify the phases of the moon as well as model its synchronous rotation.

FIELD TRIP - APPROXIMATELY 2 HOURS

30 MINUTES - PLANETARIUM SHOW

30 MINUTES - LAB

- Demonstrate the movement of the Earth and Moon around the Sun
- Discuss moon phases, order of planets, and size of the solar system
- Interactive activity to model inner solar system

30 MINUTES - STORE

30 MINUTES - GALLERY TIME

- Explore the Solar System Trail with a scavenger hunt (weather permitting)
- Model the solar system on a rope (inclement weather plan)

TAKE HOME ITEMS

- Constellation bookmarks and constellation activity

VIRTUAL FIELD TRIP - APPROXIMATELY 1 HOUR

30 MINUTES - VIRTUAL CLASS

- Explore what a star is and why they look the way they do
- Learn about constellations
- Investigate shadows

30 MINUTES - Q + A SESSION

- Solar System vs. Galaxy

CURRICULUM PACKET

- Vocabulary Crossword + Word Search
- Star Finder and Instructions
- Create a Constellation Worksheet
- Pre-recorded Video