

Pack 2 Science(ish) – More Solar System tasks to try at home

My aim here is to expand your knowledge of the solar system and to hopefully make it a bit of fun. The first task aims to get you thinking scientifically by coming up with a theory and then testing it (you might need to involve your parents, but that is good!). The second is fun but also useful – a game you can perhaps play. Finally, the third is a suggestion for some artwork/music.

Task 1 – Science (formulating an idea and testing it)

For each of the following questions, come up with a hypothesis (a prediction) and then a way you could test it in the household (you will need to be creative). Maybe then do some tests with parental supervision! It is possible – I used a rotating marshmallow to show that half of the earth would bake if it wasn't for rotation).

What do you think happens to the temperatures of the planets as their distance from the sun changes?

What would happen to the earth if it did not rotate?

What forms of energy do you think the sun produces?

Why are some parts of the planet hotter than others?

Task 2 – Top Trumps to expand planetary knowledge

Planet top trumps! I've attached a blank template for you to complete. You'll need to copy an image of each planet onto them and add the following stats and others if you wish (use NASA website or another reliable source for research). You'll need to play with the formatting to get all of these on, but I'm sure you're IT savvy enough to do this.

Diameter of the planet:

Distance from the sun:

Maximum Temperature reached:

Minimum Temperature reached:

Number of moons:

Length of orbit around the sun (in days):

In creating these and playing with them, you will indirectly build a super knowledge of the planets. Challenge someone at home! Keep the cards to show me too.

Task 3 – one for the whole family (this week's wellbeing task)

Create a space playlist by adding songs/pieces of music which contain references to space. Listen to it together and discuss whether or not it makes you think of space. If you want a classical start, go for the Planets suite by Holst or Beethoven's Moonlight Sonata. Folky/indie/guitar – try Stargazing by Phillip Henry and Hannah Martin. Maybe 'Fly me to the Moon' by Sinatra or something by David Bowie (or the nineties band SPACE). As you can see, this can go on a while.

For the full impact, sit down and enjoy the music together with family – does it make you think of space?