



# SOLAR SYSTEM FAVORITES

**Name of Resource:** Solar System Journey

**Type of Resource:** Lesson Plan

**Location:** <http://www.successlink.org/great!g867.html>

**Purpose:** Used by Teacher

**Description:** In this lesson, students will be learning about the planets and the sun in our solar system by constructing models of the planets and positioning them in their correct place in the solar system. This activity involves the Tennessee Standard 2.1 a -A model is a representation used to simplify complex phenomena.

**Evaluation:** This is a wonderful lesson plan because it requires students to make an actual model of the planets in our solar system. Hands-on activities are excellent ways to get children to remember information. Students will also have the opportunity to put their creative skills to work in this lesson as they construct their models.

**Name of Resource:** The Solar System (Day and Night)

**Type of Resource:** Lesson Plan

**Location:** <http://faldo.atmos.uiuc.edu/CLA/LESSONS/546.html>

**Purpose:** Used by Teacher

**Description:** This lesson addresses the reasons for day and night. Students learn the concept of the earth spinning on its axis. This is a very simple lesson, but teaches an abstract concept in a concrete way.

**Evaluation:** This particular lesson gives great ideas to get students to better understand the concept of day and night. Students are asked to get in a group as the teacher shows them a visual model of planets and their various positions throughout a day. I think children will better understand the concept of day and night by actually seeing tangible objects move around a model of the sun.

**Name of Resource:** Planet

**Type of Resource:** Reference Tool

**Location:** [m%2Findex%2Fconciseindex%2F66%2FO66B7000 .htm](http://m%2Findex%2Fconciseindex%2F66%2FO66B7000.htm)

**Purpose:** Used by Student

**Description:** Planet, any of the nine major astronomical objects that orbit the sun and shine by reflecting its light, or any similar astronomical object orbiting a star. Smaller bodies that also orbit the sun, and are. . .

**Evaluation:** This is also an excellent encyclopedia article because of all the extra information it contains. There are links to all the planets in the solar system.

This reference tool is also user friendly because it recommends educational products and topic-related books.

**Name of Resource:** Space Exploration

**Type of Resource:** Reference Tool

**Location:** [m%2Findex%2Fconciseindex%2F14%2FO14A2000.htm](http://m%2Findex%2Fconciseindex%2F14%2FO14A2000.htm)

**Purpose:** Used by Student

**Description:** Space Exploration, or astronautics, science and engineering of travel in outer space. Space probes have provided scientific data on the nature and origin of the solar system and the universe (see Cosmology).

**Evaluation:** This is a very good reference source because within the 7 page article on space exploration, the user can click on selected words within the article to link them to other related articles. The user can also find so much more information with the article's links to news and updates about the topic as well as other Internet sites.

**Name of Resource:** The Space Place

**Type of Resource:** Content Resource

**Location:** <http://spaceplace.jpl.nasa.gov>

**Purpose:** Used by Students and Teachers

**Description:** The Space Place contains an online space project as well as an activity center dealing with planets, comets, Mars, telescopes, spacecrafts, asteroids. There are also a variety of projects, information for classroom activities, Mars contest, and a pop rocket project.

**Evaluation:** This is an excellent web site to get students' attention. It is very colorful and easy to understand and use. The Space Place is also a great site for teachers as well as children to get ideas. There are step-by-step instructions on how to make creative space projects, games that incorporate space exploration and interesting facts about the solar system.

**Name of Resource:** Planet Tac Toe

**Type of Resource:** Activity

**Location:** [http://starchild.gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/StarChild/shadow/solar\\_system \\_ levell.../planet\\_tac\\_toe.htm](http://starchild.gsfc.nasa.gov/docs/StarChild/shadow/solar_system/_levell.../planet_tac_toe.htm)

**Purpose:** Used by Teacher **Description:** *Planet Tac Toe* is played using solar system trivia.

**Evaluation:** This is a great activity for reinforcing previous learning and to learn new facts about the solar system. It is self-checking and kids love it.

