

### 1. The Planets

On September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1846, and at the request of Urbain Leverrier, Johann Galle discovered Neptune, the most distant giant planet. This week we pay homage to these men and all the other people who have brought us information about the worlds around us. There is one page to print. Click here to get your copy.

<http://www.insideout.net/warehouse/worksheets/september/IO065S-planets.pdf>

#### Level

Good Intermediate and upwards

#### How to use the lesson

1. Give each student in the class a copy of the worksheet. Allow three minutes for students to read the first part and label the picture.

2. Check answers in open class.

*Answers (Starting nearest the Sun):*

1.Mercury 2.Venus 3.Earth 4.Mars 5.Jupiter 6.Saturn 7.Uranus 8.Neptune 9.Pluto

3. Give students a further four minutes to read the second part and write the name of a planet next to each paragraph.

4. Check answers in open class.

*Answers:*

- |   |         |
|---|---------|
| 1 | Jupiter |
| 2 | Mars    |
| 3 | Saturn  |
| 4 | Neptune |
| 5 | Earth   |
| 6 | Mercury |
| 7 | Venus   |
| 8 | Uranus  |
| 9 | Pluto   |

#### Follow up

Divide the class into two teams, A and B. Each team should work together to prepare questions based on the text (*Can you name two of Jupiter's moons? When was Pluto discovered? Etc.*). After a preparation time of around 10 minutes, teams face each other and ask and answer questions. Each correct answer scores the team a point. The team with the most points at the end of the game is the winner.

As an alternative, students could visit the sites below and create questions from the information they find. The other team then has to answer the questions as a web search. Whether you are going to do follow up work or not, a trip to the sites is highly recommended for the spectacle alone of some of the images.

## 2. Related Websites

Send your students to these websites, or just take a look yourself.

<http://pds.jpl.nasa.gov/planets/welcome.htm>

See these images and marvel at the splendour of these planets

[http://www.nasm.si.edu/ceps/etp/ss/solsys\\_1.jpg](http://www.nasm.si.edu/ceps/etp/ss/solsys_1.jpg)

The relative sizes of the planets and their moons

<http://www.nasm.si.edu/ceps/etp/etp.htm>

This site takes a look at Voyager and what it and we have learnt so far

<http://seds.lpl.arizona.edu/nineplanets/nineplanets/nineplanets.html>

Lots more stuff on the planets

<http://www.aquarianage.org/lore/holst.html>

Maybe you'd rather listen to them than look at them