

SunSpaceArt

Art Worksheet 15 – by Helen Schell – Flags of the Solar System

Background

The *SunSpaceArt* project aims to inspire children and to develop creativity. The project brings together arts and science learning (STEAM). The team comprises scientists, space ambassadors and artists. The project is funded by the Science and Technology Facilities Council. For more information, see the www.sunspaceart.org website or contact info@sunspaceart.

This art worksheet is designed for teachers to deliver *SunSpaceArt* lessons independently.

Grade: Key stage 2 or 3

Ideal Class size: 24-30

Materials:

- Recycled domestic plastics, paper and card
- Collage materials (tin foil, stickers, holographic paper & printed images)
- Scissors & craft knives (age appropriate)
- PVA glue, glue sticks, tapes, staplers, DS sticky pads.
- Water based paints & brushes of different sizes (optional)
- White & coloured paper & card (A4 – A3, A1 for banners)
- Pencils, crayons & felt tip pens
- Balloon sticks

Extension Themes

- Exoplanets, stars, galaxies and black holes

Objectives: for teachers and pupils to create original art flags and banners about the Sun, planets and space within the context of the Solar System. The aim is to enable a greater understanding of space science by using art and craft techniques and literacy. The links below can also be used for story writing, poetry, performance and IT sessions. This is an ideal format to introduce the children to careers in science and the arts.

Workshop Themes:

solar science (energy, light, spectrum and magnetism)

planetary science

Earth (environment)



Workshop plan

Running time: full day activity or several lessons over a longer period.

Activities: The aim is to create a series of solar system flags with images on one side and each planet's facts on the other. Groups can also make bigger banners, for example of the Sun flag. Please set out a range of materials for easy access and to promote experimentation. All materials and activities are suggestions and we hope that teachers and pupils will develop their own customised versions as this is about space exploration and discovering new things. Pupils can work in groups, pairs or as individuals.

Step 1: Workshops should begin with either a PowerPoint presentation or pupils can do their own research either online or by using books and magazines. A whole class discussion will get ideas flowing and enable children to develop their chosen project.

Step 2: The pupils should select a variety of materials to produce flags (large A3 or small A4 ones). Having reference images and facts about the Sun and planets on the table will assist with the activity.

Step 3: When finished, tape the flag onto its balloon stick; use sticky tape or DS pads. A larger banner can be stuck to a length of dowelling.

Final Project

All artworks and scientific investigation can be brought together to create a solar system show or can be presented as individual work. They should present a 'Show & Tell' in the classroom and projects can be used for school assemblies, exhibitions and parent events.

Discover more - online resources for research & development:

<http://www.suntrek.org/>

<http://sci.esa.int/solar-orbiter>

<https://www.esa.int/esaKIDSen/TheSun.html>

<https://www.nasa.gov/sun>

<http://thenewbridgeproject.com/portfolio/helen-schell/>

<https://www.esa.int/esaKIDSen/Planetsandmoons.html>

<https://solarsystem.nasa.gov/planets/overview/>

Workshop Images

