

Astronomy Resources

Sunrise/Sunset calendar: <https://www.sunrisesunset.com/USA/Colorado>

Monthly Sky Charts: www.skymaps.com

Star Wheels: <https://www.instructables.com/id/Starwheel-for-Backyard-Astronomy-Planisphere>

Kinesthetic Astronomy: http://www.spacescience.org/education/extra/kinesthetic_astronomy

Planet images: http://cse.ssl.berkeley.edu/AtHomeAstronomy/act09_imagecards.html

Relative planet/star size photos: <http://www.co-intelligence.org/newsletter/comparisons.html>

Solar System String Model Instructions

Materials:

25 feet of thick string or thin rope

8 clothes pins (four each of two different colors, if possible)

8 small ribbons

Photos of the planets

Starting at one end of the string, measure the following distances for each planet and tie a small ribbon tightly around the string at that point:

Mercury—3.84 inches	Jupiter—4.27 feet
Venus—7.08” inches	Saturn—7.8 feet
Earth—9.84” inches	Uranus—16.4 feet
Mars—15” inches	Neptune—24.6 feet

Write names of planets on clothes pins (terrestrial planets in one color, gaseous planets in second color). Clip on string over ribbons. Planet photos can be added to clothes pins.

For Reference:

Nearest star past Sun—45 miles in this model; Sirius—90 miles in this model

Questions?

Deborah Price, dprice@bouldercounty.org, 303-678-6215