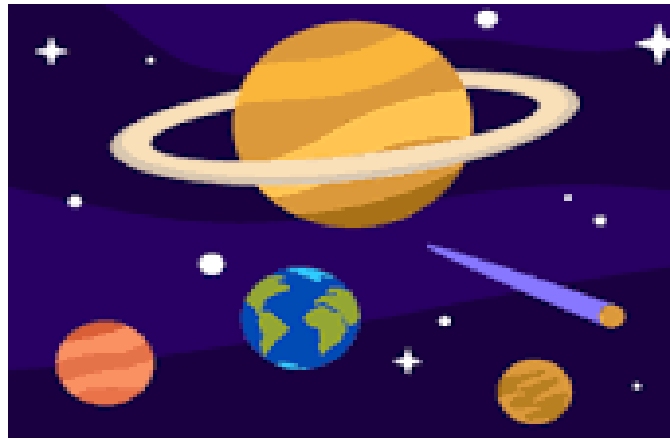


Be an Astronomer!











When you see pictures of the solar system, everything looks like it fits perfectly. This is not what it looks like in real life! Everything is much **BIGGER** and further apart!

To understand the size of the planets and their distance from the sun you can make a model using things from your kitchen. You will need to do this outside in the garden or on the balcony or footpath outside.

Place a large ball, a beach-ball is good if you have one. This is going to be the sun.

Now measure the distances below using a tape measure to lay out your “solar system”

Planet	Object	Distance to the sun
Mercury	Peppercorn 	4cm
Venus	Pea 	8cm
Earth	Pea 	11cm
Mars	Pea 	18cm
Jupiter	Orange 	61cm

Saturn	 Tomato	98cm
Uranus	 Walnut	198cm
Neptune	 Walnut	310cm