**Planet Travel Agency Project**

**1st step:** Choose a planet (Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune) or dwarf-planet (Pluto, Ceres, Makemake, Eris, Haumea).

**2nd step:** Research your planet or dwarf-planet.  Record what you learn about your planet on google docs.  Each detail must have three parts:  a) the question, b) the answer, c) the source for the information.  If you think of another question that I should add to this list, then tell me and I’ll add it.

1. Is it a gas giant or a rocky terrestrial?

2. Does it have moons?  Name them.

3. Does it have an atmosphere? What is it made of?

4. What color does it appear?

5. Does it have rings?  What are they made of?

6. What is its temperature?

7. How far is it from the sun?

8. Is it a planet or dwarf-planet?

9. How did it get its name?  What does its name mean or signify?

10. Who discovered it and when?

11. Have humans or human-made objects traveled to, by, or on it?

12. What is its diameter?

13. How long does it take to rotate on its axis?

14. How long does it take to orbit around the sun?

15. How much would you weigh on this planet?

16. Does it have any mountains or valleys? Name them.

**3rd step:** Make a brochure advertising travel to your planet.  We’ll use Google Drawings to make this brochure. It should include important information for traveling to the planet, staying there for a week to explore and learn, and returning home to Earth. What is provided by your travel agency? What do they need to bring along for the ride & exploration? What educational level must they have & what physical condition must they be in to travel?

Websites about our solar system

Listed below are several websites to help you get started in your research:

1. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Planet>
2. <http://nineplanets.org/>
3. <http://pds.jpl.nasa.gov/planets/>
4. <http://www.enchantedlearning.com/subjects/astronomy/planets/>
5. <http://solarsystem.nasa.gov/planets/index.cfm>
6. <http://www.kidsastronomy.com/solar_system.htm>
7. [http://www.nasm.si.edu/etp](http://www.nasm.si.edu/etp/)
8. <http://www.frontiernet.net/~kidpower/planets.html>
9. <http://www.kidskonnect.com/content/view/95/27/>
10. <http://www.ellejet.com/jets-observing-the-skys.php>

Videos of our Solar System

Here are some cool videos of our solar system that you might like to see:

1. Watch this video on "[Shooting stars](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D8DPrVSmjwI&feature=related)", or meteors & meteorites (hosted by YouTube).

2. Watch this video: "[What is the Milky Way?](http://www.5min.com/Video/What-is-the-Milky-Way-38356434)" (hosted by 5min).

Cool websites about space

1. How much would I [weigh](http://www.exploratorium.edu/ronh/weight/) on these planets?

2. [Questions](http://www.daviddarling.info/childrens_encyclopedia/planets_QA.html) & answers about our planets.

3. [Ten Cool Sites](http://apps.exploratorium.edu/10cool/index.php?cmd=browse&category=3) (by exploratorium)

4. Visit the home page for [NASA](http://www.nasa.gov/).

5. Visit [Space.com](http://www.space.com/)

6. Would you like to be an [astronaut](http://www.esa.int/esaKIDSen/SEM6TIWJD1E_LifeinSpace_0.html)?

7. Secret Worlds: [The Universe Within](http://www.esa.int/esaKIDSen/SEM6TIWJD1E_LifeinSpace_0.html).

8. Visit "[I Know That](http://www.iknowthat.com/ScienceIllustrations/solarsystem/science_desk.swf)" and flip the toggle switch.

9. Check out this "[Powers of Ten](http://www.kidsastronomy.com/flash/distance/distance_space.swf)" slideshow.

10. [Make](http://www.kidsastronomy.com/fun/orbitsV3.swf) a solar system.

11. Put the planets [in order](http://www.akat.org/cesitli/space_jigsaw.swf).

12. [Zoom](http://www.classzone.com/books/earth_science/terc/content/visualizations/es2808/flash/es2808_galaxy_g.swf) through the universe.

13. Play animation to see how objects [orbit](http://astro.uchicago.edu/yerkes/outreach/hou/my-solar-system.swf) a sun/star.

14. See what [Brain Pop](http://astro.uchicago.edu/yerkes/outreach/hou/my-solar-system.swf) has to teach you about our solar system.

15. Play "[Multiflyer](http://astro.uchicago.edu/yerkes/outreach/hou/my-solar-system.swf)" as you travel through space.

16. [Compare](http://www.sciencenetlinks.com/interactives/messenger/psc/PlanetSizeComparison.swf) the sizes of the planets.