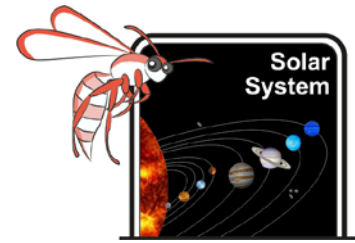


Planetary Passport - Teacher Notes



This activity asks students to consider the quality of some source materials and to write a proper bibliography describing these sources. Most school libraries have prepared guides for students. If books and computers are already available, the average student should only take about 30 minutes to find and confirm the data required for their planet. Less information is known about the outer planets so these may be allocated to the less able students. If students use the marking key for their rough notes, staple it to their final copy and hand them in before the end of the session plagiarism is discouraged. Only one mark is allocated for the drawing of the planet so a simple sketch is fine. Student's work can be used for the "Planetary Quiz" worksheet.

When starting any research project a scientist has to first place a value on the secondary (other person's) material they are using. Not all newspaper reports or all Internet sources are reliable.



G I G O



Garbage In = Garbage Out

Academic work and many government researchers are required to use peer review before publication. Not all newspaper articles and many Internet sites are less than careful with authenticating facts. If you do not check information by using more than one source you could end up writing rubbish! This is why we always add a bibliography of our sources. Please provide students with your school's bibliography requirements.

When you apply for a passport your application has to be checked and approved by a person of good standing in the community such as a teacher. You will be collecting scientific and historical information about one of the other planets in our solar system to provide it with its' planetary passport. Luckily we do need a "true copy and likeness" of the picture to be verified by the signature of an astronomer!



Use the marking key for your rough notes

Marking Key - Any measurement should have units (AU or km)

Picture	1
Name of planet	1
Reason for name	2
Position in solar system	1
Distance from the Sun	1
Diameter relative to Earth	1
Orbital path direction	1
Moons present or absent	1
Atmosphere	2
5 fascinating facts	5
Bibliography	4 marks

TOTAL 20 marks

SCORE _____

Information gained here can be used to answer the "Planetary Quiz".