

# Explore the Solar System!

The Solar System is our last Science Unit of third grade. It is time apply your creativity and knowledge of the Solar System and create a unique, impressive project.

You have the choice of five projects, see reverse. If you have a project idea that is not listed, give a project proposal to your teacher and you might have the opportunity to create your own idea.

These projects need to be completed at home and are due on May 28th.

We can't wait to see your **Out of this World** project!

Have Fun!



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Show this page to your parents and explain the project to them. Have a parent sign below acknowledging they have seen and understand the assigned project. We can't wait to see your **Out of this World** project!

Have Fun!

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please sign and return by May 10<sup>th</sup>

Projects are due May 28<sup>th</sup>

<p><b>Space Mobile:</b></p> <p>Create the Solar System using any material that you have available such as Styrofoam balls, foil, paper mache' balloons, etc. String them with yarn or fishing wire. Add a rocket ship, alien, comets, or star to make your mobile creative and unique! See backside for an example. You will present your mobile to the class and share any interesting facts about the Solar System you discovered while researching the shape and the size of the planets.</p>	<p><b>Board Game:</b></p> <p>Create a fun and interactive board game that teaches interesting facts about our Solar System. Take an existing game board, such as Monopoly, and turn it into MOON-opoly. How about Toss-A-Cross with facts about the Solar System attached? Game needs to make sense, be realistically 'playable' by two to four people, and have a winning vs. losing strategy. You will be asked to demonstrate and play your game in class. Written games rules also need to be submitted.</p>	<p><b>Dramatic Skit/ Play/ News Report:</b></p> <p>Have you ever wanted to be on television? ..Well now is your chance! Create a script of a skit, a play, a commercial or a news report. You could go either comical or serious with either one. Are you trying to sell a new cereal from Saturn called Rings-on-Fire? How about a silly news report of an alien landing at school and taking over the cafeteria? Presentations need to include true and interesting facts regarding the Solar System. Include simple costumes with your presentation, as well as a written script. Presentations will be performed in front of the class.</p>	<p><b>Children's Fact Book:</b></p> <p>Have you always wanted to be an author? Well now is your chance! Write a children's book about the Solar System. This could be in the form of a flip-book, pop-up book, maybe even take a traditional fairy tale with a "twist" to the setting which includes Outer Space. Include facts regarding the Solar System as you write your story as well as illustrations to make your book more interesting and creative. Plan on sharing your book with the class.</p>	<p><b>Poster:</b></p> <p>Here is a more traditional choice, but just as creative! Make a poster about the Solar System. You decide whether it is seriously scientific, like naming the planets and giving facts about each one. Or funny, like trying to sell a home on the planet Mars. Either way, make your poster creative, visually appealing, colorful and include those Solar System facts!</p>	<p><b>Your Own Choice!</b></p> <p>Do you have a great idea, but it is not listed? Come see your teacher and describe your project idea in detail. You may want to write up a quick explanation or sketch of what your end result will be. Teacher will decide if your project has enough requirements, and maybe give you some helpful hints. Once you have approval from your teacher you are good to go!</p> <p>How about visiting a observatory and doing a virtual field trip? How about a Powerpoint?</p>
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## SPACE MOBILE

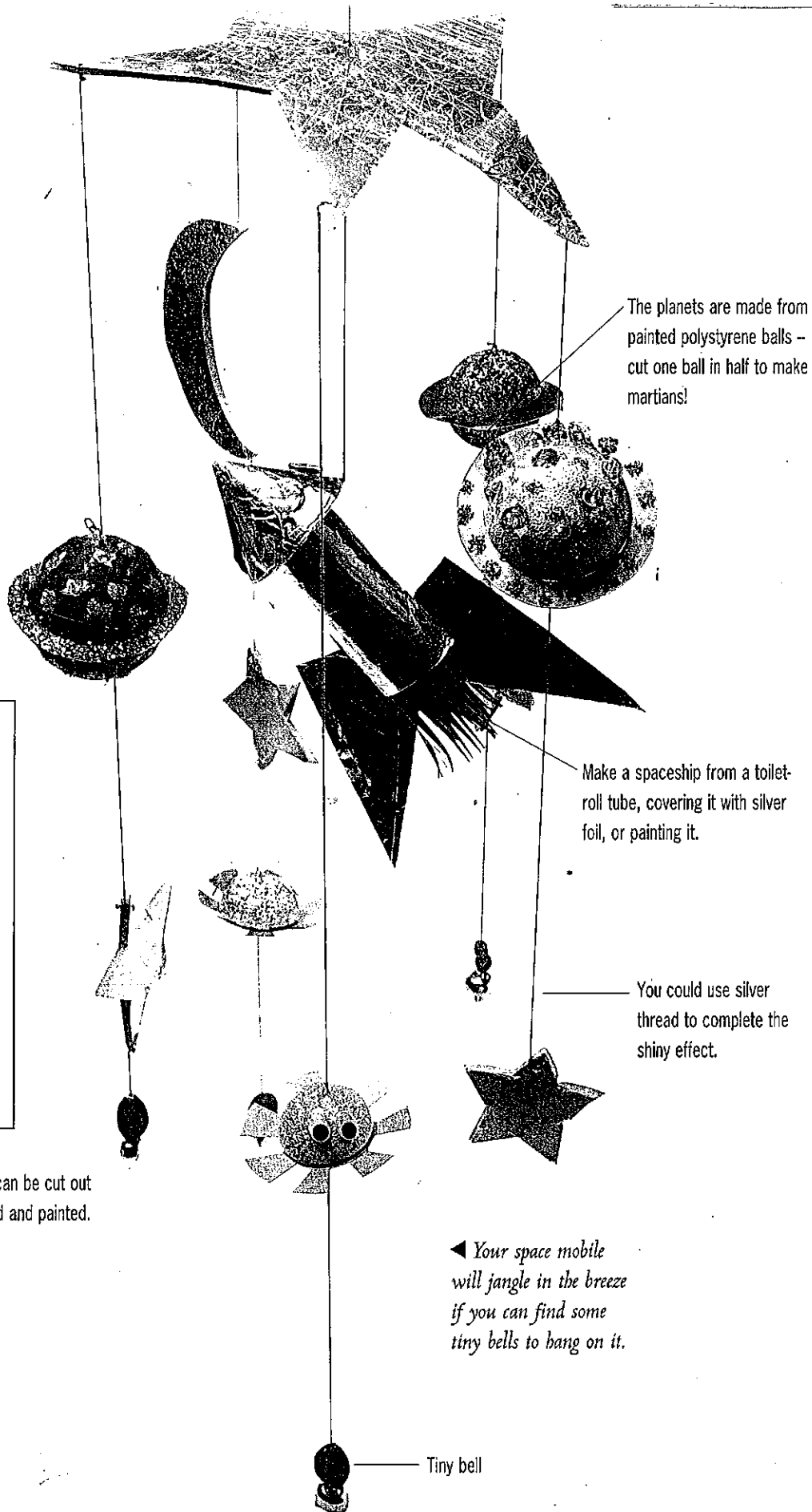
This outer-space mobile glints and glitters in the light! The objects hang from a thick cardboard star shape, covered with silver foil. Don't forget to balance the objects so the mobile hangs evenly from the ceiling!

### WHAT YOU NEED

Thick card  
Polystyrene balls  
toilet-roll tube  
Glue  
Silver foil  
Glitter  
Paint  
Brush  
Silver or black thread  
Scissors  
Tiny bells (optional)

Stars and moons can be cut out from card and painted.

**ADDING EXTRA SPARKLE**  
Dab on glue to add glitter to the space objects.



The planets are made from painted polystyrene balls - cut one ball in half to make martians!

Make a spaceship from a toilet-roll tube, covering it with silver foil, or painting it.

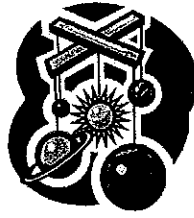
You could use silver thread to complete the shiny effect.

◀ *Your space mobile will jangle in the breeze if you can find some tiny bells to hang on it.*

Tiny bell

Due Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_



## **Making a Space Mobile**

This is an optional assignment that is to be done at home with a parent.

### **Creating a Space Mobile:**

1. First, cut out a large star shape out of a heavy material such as cardboard. Cover it with foil, glitter, or anything that makes it “shine”.
2. Next, create the eight planets using any material that you may have available such as styrofoam balls, foil or even paper mache balloons.
3. Then, string your planets onto the large star with string, yarn or fishing wire. Don’t forget to balance your mobile so it hangs evenly!



Finally, you can then add any rocket ships, stars, comets, asteroids, or anything else “spacey” that you would like. How about an alien?



Most importantly **HAVE FUN** and **BE CREATIVE!**

An example of the space mobile is pictured on the backside of this handout.