

Name: _____ Date: _____ Per: _____

Lab: Scale Solar System

The following is a roughly to scale table of the planets of our solar system and their distances from the sun. The scale of this model is very tiny compared to the actual size of the solar system, the planets, and the sun. You will observe the distances between the planets and use that to answer the questions below.

Planet	Size	Object	Distance from Sun	Distance in Au
Sun	25 mm	Ball		
Mercury	.25 mm	Peppercorn	1 meter	.38
Venus	.5 mm	Bead	2 meters	.72
Earth	.5 mm	Bead	3 meters	1.0
Mars	.25 mm	Peppercorn	5 meters	1.5
Jupiter	2.5 mm	Big Marble	17 meters	5.2
Saturn	2.0 mm	Big Marble	32 meters	9.5
Uranus	1 mm	Marble	64 meters	19.2
Neptune	1 mm	Marble	100 meters	30.1

1. What do you notice about the size and locations of the inner planets (Mercury, Venus, Earth, and Mars) of the solar system?
2. What do you notice about the size and locations of the outer planets (Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune) of the solar system?
3. Which planet looks most similar to Earth?
4. What do you notice about the position of the planets and their distance from the sun?