

E13 Smaller Solar System Objects

Level(s) – yr 7 -13



Lesson Focus:

Objects, other than planets, which are part of our Solar System

Specific Learning Outcomes:

At the end of this lesson the students will be able to...

- Identify several smaller Solar System objects ie moons, asteroids, comets, meteorites, and their location in our solar system
- Name the Kuiper Belt and Oort cloud and show where they are in terms of the Solar System.

Suggested Learning Activities:

(identify some potential learning activities)

- **Solar System and Crumbs (yrs 7-13, approx 15 mins)**
An educator –lead presentation and discussion about what objects, other than planets are found in our solar system, and where they are located. We introduce the idea that our solar system contains much more than just the planets.
- **Comets; (yrs 7-13, approx 10 mins)**
Short movies of comets are used to illustrate comet behaviour and composition.
- **Zodiac Constellations (yrs 9-13, approx 5 mins)** The special nature of zodiac constellations is pointed out and the ecliptic explained using solar system models and flythrough.
- **Share/Pair discussion (yrs 7-13, approx 10 mins)**
Students choose one smaller solar system object from those they have been introduced to, then pair up and describe the attributes and behaviours of their chosen object to their partner.

Curriculum Links:

e.g. Science – Astronomical Systems L4-7

N/A

Resources & Preparation:

e.g. people, physical items, specialised rooms/areas

- Power points up and ready on Space Room computer.
- Movies up and ready to go on Space Room computer.

Key Competencies:

Please tick:

Thinking

Using language, symbols and texts

Managing Self

Relating to Others

Participating and Contributing

Prior Knowledge and Experiences:

Students must have a reasonable working knowledge of the planets of the Solar System.