

“In Outer Space”

Module 9, Planet Collage

The logo for "EXPLORE IT" is enclosed in a black rectangular border. The word "EXPLORE" is in a bold, sans-serif font, with the letter "O" replaced by a green circle. The word "IT" is in a smaller, similar font. The letters "E", "X", "P", "L", "R", and "E" have horizontal lines through them.

Prompt:

In this activity, design your own planet by using paper and glue to make a collage! You can create a collage of a planet you already know or invent one from your imagination. Think about what colors, textures, and shapes the surface of your planet will have. Then, use markers to add details and consider the following:

- Who lives on your planet?
- What buildings are there?
- How do the creatures on your planet travel?
- What plants grow there?

Materials:

- Large circular objects (for example: salad bowls, plates, lids)
- Plain paper
- Dark colored markers
- Scrap paper (old magazines, construction paper, newspaper, wrapping paper, tissue paper, etc.)
- Glue stick
- Newspaper, plastic table cloth, or other table covering (to protect your table from a mess!)

Instructions:

1. Read the prompt with your child.
2. With your child, trace a few large circular objects onto pieces of paper. The circles on the paper will be the outlines for their planets! Make sure they are large enough to give your child enough space to work.
3. Cover your child's workspace with a table cloth or newspapers to protect the surface from glue.
4. Demonstrate ripping scrap paper into smaller pieces. Show your child how to glue down a few small pieces of paper to make a collage (see the “Resources” section below). Discuss any household rules regarding the use of glue, etc.

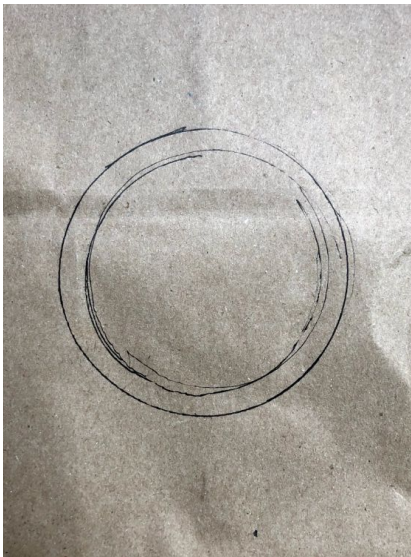
5. If your child needs inspiration, show them images of planets from the links in the Resources section below – or any outer space themed books you have at home!
6. Give your child lots of time to rip and glue paper onto their first planet outline.
7. Once they have filled the circular outline, they can use markers to add details to the space around the planet while the glue dries. Have your child think about:
 - a. Is anything flying in the sky?
 - b. Are there stars? Moons? Other planets?
8. When the glue dries, read the prompt again with them to encourage your child to draw some details on their planet. They can think about the animals, plants, and built structures that may be on their planet.
9. Repeat steps 5-7 to create a whole solar system of planets!

Resources:

If your child needs some inspiration, take a peek at some real-life images of planets:

- NASA's Hubblesite: <https://hubblesite.org/resource-gallery/images>. You can use the search bar to search for words, like "planets", "Jupiter", and more.
- NASA Image and Video Library: <https://images.nasa.gov/>. Search hundreds of planetary images and videos!

Here's a step-by-step of how we glued scraps of paper to create a planet collage!





Extensions:

If your child needs more challenges to go along with this activity:

- Invite them to cut out their planets and glue them on a large piece of paper to create a solar system. They can draw or collage additional details.
- Invite them to cut out their planets. Attach the planets to string and dowels to create a mobile!
- Make other extraterrestrial outlines for your child, like rocket ships, stars, and aliens. Challenge them to add these shapes to their collage.

Together with your child, go to the “In Outer Space” topic on Flipgrid and share their planet collages.