

Our Solar System is really big. It's hard to to imagine how far apart things are in space. Take a walk through a scaled down Solar System to appreciate the distances involved.

Follow the instructions. You will count as you walk so you know how far to go. The walk will take you about 5 minutes if you count one number per second. Remember you will have to walk back to where you started!



Instructions

- You start your walk in the centre of the Solar System, at the Sun.
- Walk away from the Sun while counting to 10...
- When you get to 4, you have reached Mercury, the smallest planet in our Solar System.
- When you get to 7, you have reached Venus, the hottest planet in our Solar System.
- When you get to 10, you have reached Earth! This is the only planet we know of that can support life.
- Now carry on walking and count from 1 up to 5. You will travel beyond our Moon. When you get to 5 you have reached Mars, the red planet. The largest volcano in the Solar System, Olympus Mons, is on Mars.
- Next carry on walking and count from 1 to 37 as you walk. You are on your way to the largest planet in our Solar System. During your journey you will pass through the asteroid belt. When you get to 37, you have reached the gas giant Jupiter.
- Set off again, and count to from 1 to 42 as you walk. You will travel to Saturn, passing by its dozens of moons and through its massive ring system.
- After Saturn, set off again and count from 1 to 97 as you walk. You have reached Uranus. Uranus is the only planet in our Solar System that orbits the Sun on its side.
- Finally, carrying on walking while counting from 1 to 109. You have reached Neptune. Neptune is the furthest planet from the Sun!
- Well done! You have completed the walk! You can now return back to where you started.
- But did you know, you did not reach the edge of the Solar System? Beyond Neptune, there are many smaller objects like dwarf planets, asteroids, and comets. To reach the edge of the Solar System at this scale, you would have had to carry on walking and counting to 1000!

