

Assignment #1

Welcome to Astronomy!

Let's start off the semester with a refresher of our Solar System and its major components.

You are going to illustrate our solar system. Work in collaborative groups of 3. Talk to each other about what you are doing. **It would be VERY wise to have the sequence of the planets and the names of their moons memorized by the end of this activity.**

Keep in mind that we will be illustrating a lot during this course. Please take your time, do your research on each element of your illustration, and turn in a solid piece of work. Your illustration is ultimately going to act as a study guide for you, so make it count!

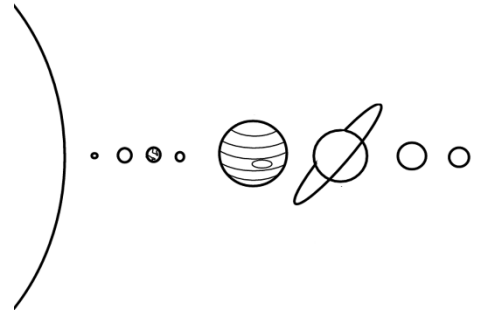
Suggestions -

Sketch out a rough draft first in regular pencil to make sure that you can scale everything onto the page as well as leave ample room for labeling all of the features. Then go ahead with a final draft.

Use the traditional perspective in which the sun is on the left side of the page and all of the planets are lined up to the right of it.

Be sure to draw the size of each planet (and a corner of the sun) roughly to scale in comparison to each other. However, the scale of distance between features is not important for this illustration; we will be learning about that later.

To the right is a very basic sample to give you an idea of the perspective I am looking for. Your final illustration will be much more detailed (with colors depicted as accurately as possible).



Be sure to **illustrate AND label** the following:

- the sun
- the terrestrial planets
- the Jovian planets
- any and all Dwarf planets
- the Ninth planet (?)
- all moons
- the Asteroid Belt
- the Kuiper Belt

What else is out there (within the limits of our “Solar System”)? Surprise me!

Have fun with this assignment. Don't stress over the little details. More than anything, I want you to start thinking about everything going on out there in our Solar System. Talk with your group. Be creative – but as accurate as possible!

On the back side of your paper, I want you to write me a 5-7 sentence paragraph that talks about our Solar System. Pretend that I know nothing about it. Give me the run-down, so to speak.