



DO YOU KNOW?

Lesson Plan
Level 1

PLANETS

CEFR Pre-A1 Level

YLE Starters

LESSON OBJECTIVES

Vocabulary

- Planets: Mercury, Venus, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus, Neptune, ring, exoplanet, planet
- Space: Solar System, orbit, star, telescope, Hubble Space Telescope, James Webb Space Telescope
- General: air, gas, ice, life, storm, spot, mountain, desert
- Verbs: study, take (photos), make, make of, orbit
- Adjectives: cold, round, biggest, smallest, nearest, important

Grammar

- Present simple
- Present continuous
- Wh- question words

Skills

- Reading: for specific information, vocabulary development
- Writing: basic sentences, wh- questions, describing the Solar System
- Listening: for specific information
- Speaking: describing and comparing pictures, asking and answering questions about the Solar System, presenting information

Resources

- Do You Know? Planets book
- Visit www.ladybirdeducation.co.uk for
 - Reading Activities
 - Video Activities
 - Audiobooks
 - Video clips

LESSON PLAN

Timing: 40–60 minutes

Before reading: 10 minutes

During reading: 20 minutes

After reading: 10 minutes.

Before reading

- Introduce the subject. Ask pupils what they know about the Solar System: *How many planets are there? How many planets can you name? Which planet do we live on? etc.*
- Show pupils the cover picture and ask: *Do you think this is planet Earth? How do you know? Do you know which planet it is?*
- Show pupils the Contents page and explain its purpose. Ask pupils which heading they're most interested in and to turn to that page.
- Show pupils the pictures on pages 4–5 and go over the vocabulary. Ask: *Which picture shows ice?* Ask pupils, without looking at their books, to guess the meanings. Award points for correct guesses.
- Teach the names of the planets and the space vocabulary.
- Teach the verbs by miming study, take, etc.
- Teach the adjectives and comparison adjectives by miming big – bigger – biggest, small – smaller – smallest, near – nearer – nearest, etc.



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During reading

- Read or play the audio recording and ask pupils to follow the text in their books up to page 7. Pause to ask the 'Look' questions to check understanding. Ask: *Which planets are the near to Earth?*
- Continue to read or play the audio recording to page 23. Pause to summarize or ask the 'Think' question to break up text and check understanding.
- Continue to read or play the audio recording to the end of the book. Ask questions to check understanding. For example: *What different things are there to look at in the Solar System?*
- Divide the class into pairs. Hand out the video worksheets. Check that pupils understand the tasks. Play the videos, pausing after each one to give pupils time to answer. Check their answers. Show correct pronunciation during feedback.

After reading

- Ask pupils to do the quiz on pages 30–31 of the book individually. Check their answers.
- Ask pupils to recall one interesting fact that they learned from the book.
- Divide pupils into pairs or small groups and ask them to complete one of the 'Find out!' tasks. They could create a fact file or quiz on the information they learn. Set as homework if time is short.
- Divide up the two 'Project' tasks on pages 13 and 25 between the pupils or ask them to complete the one that interests them the most. You could choose pupils to present the information they find out to the rest of the class.
- Set one or more of the 'Find out!' tasks as homework and ask pupils to present their fact files or quizzes to the rest of the class.

DIFFERENTIATION

Extra support

- Mix pupils of different abilities when doing groupwork.
- Encourage pupils to draw and label answers rather than write full sentences.

Extension

Fast finishers can write a presentation about one of the planets in the Solar System.