

Planet Nine Primary Resource

This Science primary resource contains fascinating information about Planet Nine, the undiscovered planet that Astronomers believe lies in the farthest reaches of our solar system. What evidence is there to suggest Planet Nine exists? How far away from Earth do astronomers think it is? How big is Planet Nine likely to be?

Pupils will learn about the scientific reasoning behind this hypothetical planet and the research underway to find out more.

The teaching resource can be used in study group tasks and discussions about space and our solar system. It can be used as a printed handout for each pupil to review and annotate, or for display on the interactive whiteboard for class discussion.

Activity:

Ask pupils to imagine that they are astronomers on an exciting space mission when they discover Planet Nine! Using the primary resource together with their imagination, get them to write a fun, fictional account of what the planet is *really* like. Is it different to what scientists had previously thought and, if so, how?

Encourage the children to describe the planet in detail and include colourful illustrations of their amazing discovery. What does Planet Nine look like? How big is it? What's the temperature/weather like? Is there unexpected life on Planet Nine...?