

# LESSON 16:

# WATER COLOR PLANETS

## SUPPLIES

### PENCIL BOX

- Pencils or markers


### MAIN BIN

- White Paper Plates (20)
- Paintbrushes (20)
- Cups half full of water (10)
- Paper towels
- Water color paint (10 pallettes)
- Tablecloth (2)

### OBJECTIVES


- Students will learn about the different planets in the solar system
- Students will learn about the different properties of each planet

### INTRODUCTION

 2-3 min

Planets come in many colors, shapes, and sizes, from the swirling red storms of Jupiter to the icy blue of Neptune. Differences in color show what each planet is made of and what happens on its surface (like volcanoes, storms, or dust). By mixing watercolors, students can see how combining colors can create new shades and patterns, just like the diverse appearances of planets in our solar system.

### HOOK

 2-3 min

Show the students images of planets and ask:

- Why do you think Mars looks red?
- Why do Saturn and Jupiter have stripes?
- If you could invent your own planet, what colors and patterns would it have?

Explain that today they'll use watercolors to create their own planet, inspired by the incredible variety of worlds in space.



## DISCUSSION



2-3 min

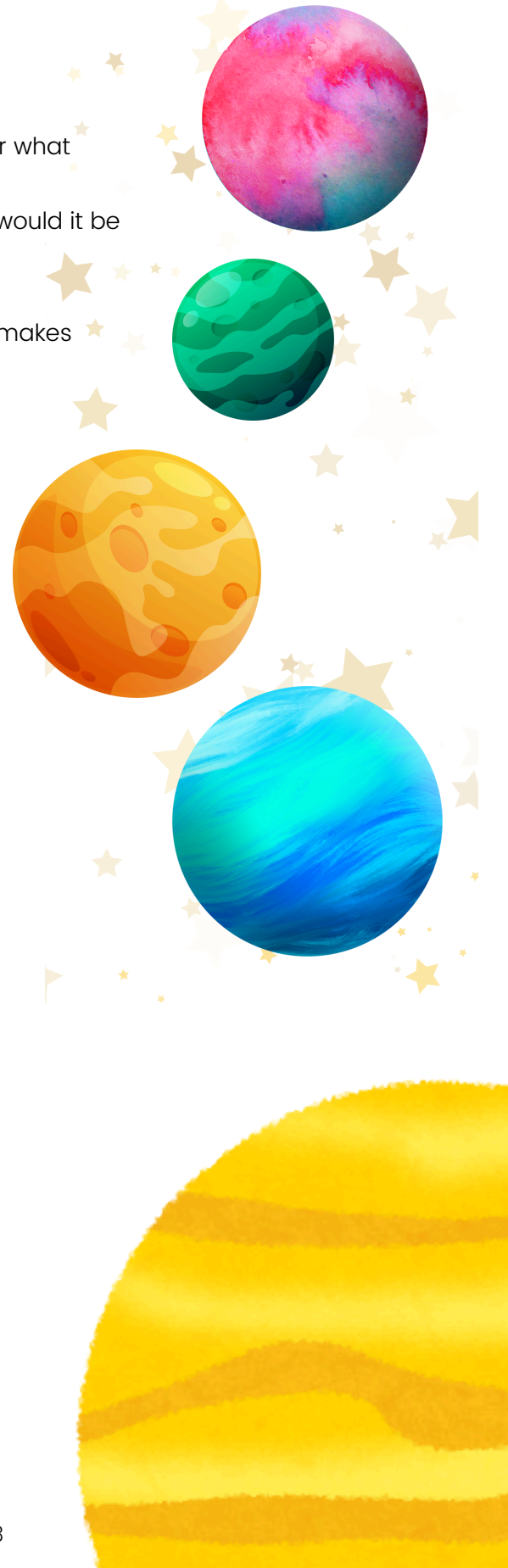
Ask students:

- How are planets different from each other?
- What can the colors of a planet tell us about what it's made of or what happens on it?
- If you discovered a new planet, what would it look like and what would it be made of?

Encourage students to share ideas and think creatively about what makes each planet unique.

## EXPERIMENT

1. Give each student a white paper plate. **NOTE: make sure to use tablecloths to protect tables.**
2. Talk about the different features of planets, like some are made of water, gas, and land
3. Using watercolors, students will paint the entire surface of their plate to create their own unique planet. They can blend colors, make swirls, or add patterns to mimic storms, craters, or rings.
4. Encourage them to experiment with color mixing to see how new shades appear, just like the diverse colors found on real planets.
5. Once finished, students can share their planets with the class, describing what kind of planet they created and what makes it special.



## MOVMENT GAME


Students spread out around the room as “planets.” One student is the “Sun” standing in the center. The “planets” walk, hop, or spin in circles around the Sun to show how planets orbit. The teacher calls out a planet’s name (e.g., “Mars!”), and that student freezes while the others keep orbiting. Keep playing, calling different planets to freeze or unfreeze. Take turns allowing students to be the sun and different planets.

## EXTENSION:

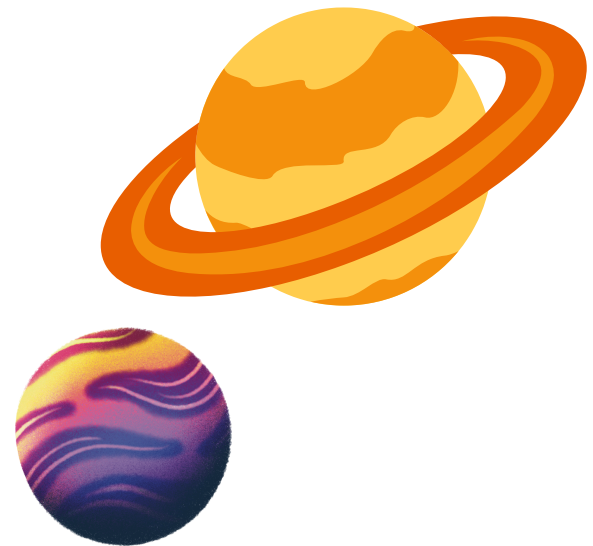
If students finish early, they can use markers to add aliens, animals, or astronauts to their planets. Encourage them to think about what kind of creatures or explorers might live or visit there and draw them interacting with the planet’s surface.

If all students finish early, hang everyone’s paper plate planets around the room. Have the class do a gallery walk, moving around the room to look at each other’s planets. Encourage them to share what they notice about the colors, patterns, and any details their classmates added. Ask a few students to explain the story of their planet to the group.

## OBSERVE & EXPLAIN

 1-3 min

- Ask students to discuss what colors and patterns they used and why they chose them for their planet.
- Ask students to share if they added any aliens, animals, or astronauts, and what kind of stories or adventures might happen on their planet.
- Have students talk about how real planets are different from each other and what they learned about why planets can look so unique.



## CLEAN UP & DISMISSAL

Students must then clean their workspace. Make sure to leave the classroom the way you found it.

- Have students carefully dump their paint water into the sink or a bucket.
- Collect brushes and cups for washing.
- Wipe down desks with paper towels to clean up any paint spills.
- Once everything is tidy, give students their paper plate planets to take home.