



Scales of the Universe with Playdoh

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(1) Earth-Moon

- “Make 50 Balls”
 - Choose an average sized ball
 - Squash the other 49 back together
 - You have the Earth and Moon
 - Moon goes 30 Earth diameters away from the Earth
 - (Get students to predict sizes and distances before they do the activity and compare... get them to think about why they thought that before)
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(2) Earth-Moon-Mars

- Divide your dough in half... one half is the **EARTH**
 - Make seven balls out of the other half... one of those is **MARS**
 - Take another one of those seven balls and divide it into seven, one of those is the **MOON**
 - You can do scales too... but Mars is FAR!! (3lbs of playdoh = 7 city blocks)
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(3) Solar System

- Make 10 equal balls: 6 Jupiter; 3 Saturn
 - 1 left, make 10: 5 Saturn; 2 Neptune; 2 Uranus
 - 1 left, make 10: 9 Saturn
 - 1 left, make 2: 1 Earth
 - 1 left, make 10: 9 Venus
 - 1 left, make 10: 9 Mars
 - 1 left, make 10: 9 Mercury, 1 Pluto
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