



A Trip through the Solar System - Grades 5 and Up

Supply students with watercolors, paper and paintbrushes, or other art supplies and have them paint pictures of the solar system while they are listening to Holst's "The Planets". This is a long piece; roughly 50 minutes, so feel free to do it in sections if you like.

How It Works

This activity encourages students to use their imagination. As they listen to the music for each planet, encourage them to visualize what they're hearing and try their best to put that on paper. (Another creative way to do this activity is to use an iPad, other tablet or computer to make their artwork.)

This version of the piece works well because each section is time-stamped in the description: <https://youtu.be/lxic2Z2e2xs>

If your student is having trouble visualizing the planets, the above video has pictures of each one that they can use as a guide.

What You'll Need

Access to YouTube

Tablet or computer

Art supplies: pens, paper, colored pencils, watercolors, etc.

