## SCALE MODEL OF OUR SOLAR SYSTEM

Object of activity. Given various size spheres (or circles) and a metre stick, make a scale model of our solar system.



These models of our solar system are certainly not to proper scale!

Neither the diameters across nor the distances from each other are anyway near proper scale in the above diagram. Our job is to make a scale model of our solar system.

A Billy Nye movie on planets is rather helpful too.

|         | Diameter  | Distance |
|---------|-----------|----------|
|         |           | Millions |
|         | (km)      | of km    |
| SUN     | 1,392,000 |          |
| MERCURY | 4,878     | 57.9     |
| VENUS   | 12,104    | 108.2    |
| EARTH   | 12,756    | 149.6    |
| Moon    | 3,476     | 149.6    |
| MARS    | 6,787     | 227.9    |
| JUPITER | 142,980   | 778.3    |
| SATURN  | 120,540   | 1,429.4  |
| URANUS  | 51,120    | 2,875.0  |
| NEPTUNE | 49,530    | 4,504.4  |
| PLUTO   | 2,300     | 5,915.8  |

So now make your scale model. Make the planet models first, then put them at the correct scale distance.

Very approximate rounded values are convenient and acceptable I would *suggest* a scale of 1/10 Billion (to start) would be most appropriate Write at least two proper paragraphs abot the size and scale of our solar system: