

Let's start with our own little corner of the Solar System. How much do you know about how big the Earth and Moon are, compared with the Sun? Are they all the same size, like this?



Which picture represents the relative sizes of the Earth, Moon and Sun?

Work in small groups to discuss and label the diagram that you think is correct. Don't worry about the positions of the circles - it's the sizes we are thinking about.


Label your diagram and write a couple of sentences underneath to explain why you think it's correct.

Which three of these best represent the relative sizes of the Earth, Moon and Sun? Work in your groups to discuss and decide.


These three are about right, but what about the relative distances appart?


Go back to your book and check what you have written; do you need to change or add anything to your ideas?


Your teacher will hold on to the 'Earth' and 'Moon', while you decide where to stand on the field, to show where the
'Sun' should go.

Were you surprised at how far away the 'Sun' was from the 'Earth' and 'Moon'?


Here's another way to show just how far away we are on Earth from the Sun.

Aut1'19-Science-2-relative sizes document.docx

Time to find out even more about the planets...


Listen carefully to the information that you are given and record two or three facts for each planet in the correct boxes on your sheet.
Remember to find the position of each planet in the solar system.

So, you think the Earth is a big place? Watch this video - it compares the sizes of the planets in our Solar System as if we could line them all up in size order. They are not lined up as they really are in space, and none of them are anywhere near each other, but the sizes are correct. The video then goes on to compare our Sun to other stars in our galaxy.

Prepare to get brain freeze....
Comparison_of_planets_and_stars.mp4

