

Distance Between Planets—Reference Sheet

Use this table when you and your class are marking planets on the pavement for the *Running to Neptune* activity. The table shows the distance of each planet from the Sun in astronomical units (abbreviated as a.u.). One a.u. is the distance from the Earth to the Sun (about 93 million miles, or 150 million kilometers).

The focus of the activity is on the distance between the planets, rather than the *size* of each planet. Even so, we like to make a big circle for the Sun—as big as space allows. Then measure each distance and make a circle for that planet. In the activity, 1 a.u. equals 2 feet. **You will need an outdoor area that is at least 60 feet long for this activity.**

	How many astronomical units from the Sun? (approximately)
Sun	0 a.u.
Mercury	$\frac{1}{3}$ a.u.
Venus	$\frac{2}{3}$ a.u.
Earth	1 a.u.
Mars	$1\frac{1}{2}$ a.u.
Jupiter	5 a.u.
Saturn	10 a.u.
Uranus	20 a.u.
Neptune	30 a.u.