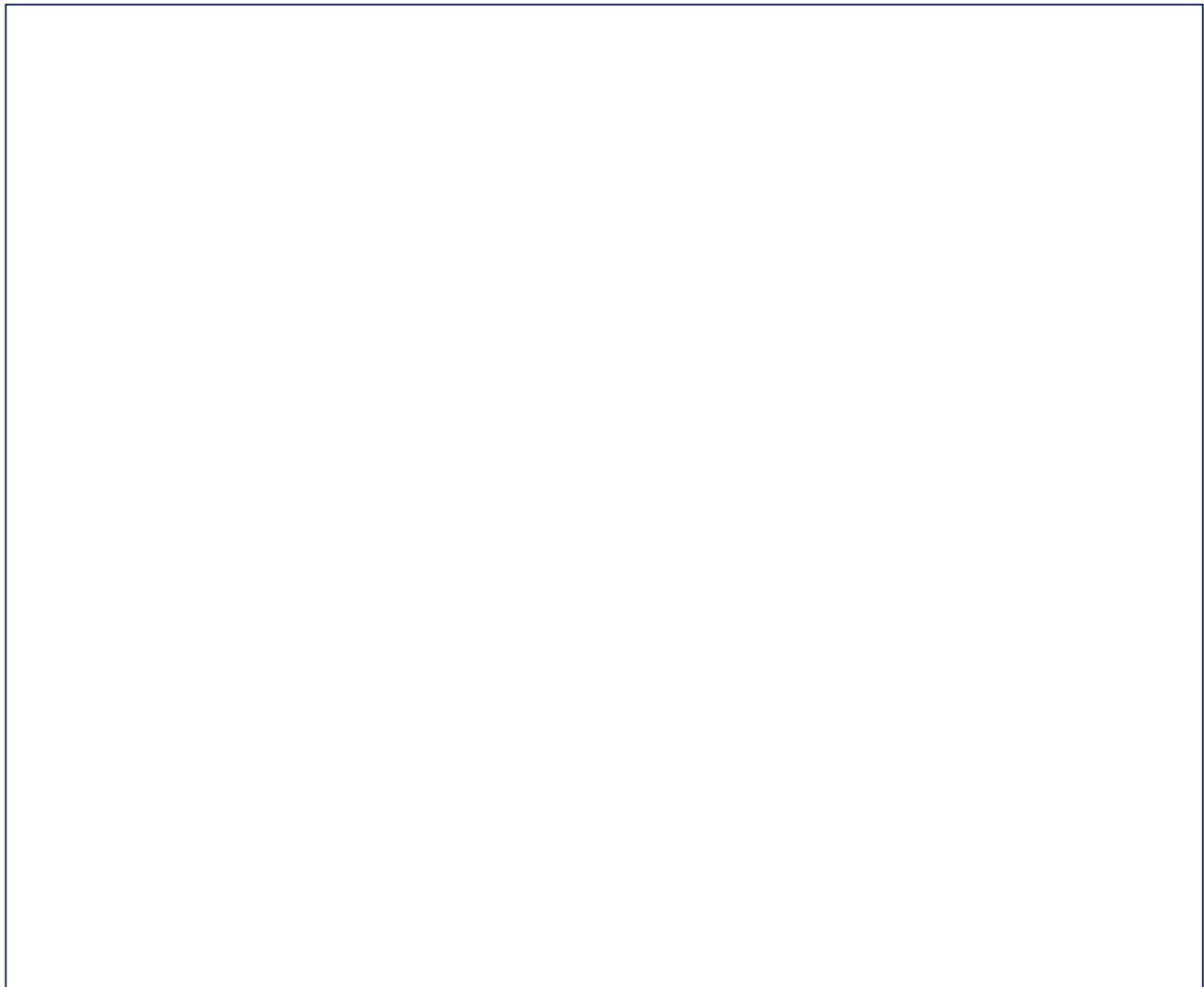


Nova's Solar System Sketchpad

Learning objective: To identify and describe the position of the planets in our solar system and understand their orbits around the Sun.

Follow the steps below to create a diagram of our solar system. Use your best scientific drawing skills to show the order of the planets and their path around the Sun.

Draw: Using a landscape piece of paper, draw a scientific model of the solar system. Start by placing a large, golden-yellow sun in the center. Use a pencil to draw eight clear, faint lines around the sun to show the orbits. Draw small circles on these lines to represent the planets, ensuring they are in the correct order starting from Mercury closest to the Sun. Add rings to Saturn and color the planets based on their scientific descriptions (e.g., Mars as reddish, Neptune as deep blue). Keep the style neat and clear, like a diagram in a science textbook.



Label words: Sun · Mercury · Venus · Earth · Mars · Jupiter · Saturn · Uranus · Neptune · Orbit

Steps:

1. Step 1: Draw a large, bright circle in the center of your page to represent the Sun. Label it.
2. Step 2: Draw eight curved lines (ellipses) around the Sun. What do these lines represent in our solar system?

3. Step 3: Draw the eight planets on their correct orbits. Remember, the Earth is the third planet from the Sun. Label all eight planets.
4. Step 4: Nova the owl wants to know which planet is the largest. Write the name of the largest planet below.
5. Step 5: Explain why we have day and night on Earth using your drawing to help you.