

Planet Top Trumps



Objective

Become familiar with the 8 planets, their key characteristics and rotations around the sun.



Equipment

- Enrich School Orienteering Map
- Planet list
- Pen / Pencil
- Planet Top Trump cards



Preparation

- Prior to the start of the lesson, you will need to visit the control points you are planning to use and place a number of different Top Trump cards at each one.
- Split the children into small groups and provide each of the groups with a clip board



Instructions

- Each group will use their map to navigate the school's grounds and visit different control points. At each control point, there will be a number of different Planet Top Trump cards. The groups must collect all 21 cards and return to the start / finish location.
- Different children within the group should take it in turns to navigate the map, making sure they do not collect duplicate top trumps cards as they visit control points.
- Once the groups arrive back at the start location, groups can play Planet Top Trumps against each other.
- To start the Top Trumps game, each group must shuffle their cards and place them face up. The top card should be the only card that is visible but should be hidden from other groups. The group that finished collecting the cards first starts by reading out a category from their top card (e.g. Diameter, value 88,729 miles). The other groups then read out the same category from their cards.
- The group with the best or highest value wins, and that group collects all the top cards, including their own, and moves them to the bottom of their pile. It is then their turn again to choose a category from the next card. If two or more cards share the top value, or data is not available for that particular subject, then the two cards are placed in the middle and the same group chooses again from the next card. The winning group takes the cards in the middle as well.
- The group with all the cards at the end is the winner.



Other information

- Explain to the children that Pluto was classified as a 'dwarf planet' in 2006.

