



Icosa-Planet

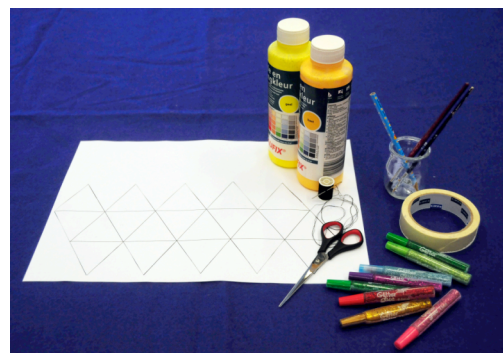
In this imaginative craft activity, children make planets, using a template of an icosahedron. They then decorate their planets with sand, glue, cotton-wool, paint, glitter... the sky is the limit.

Icosa-planet



★ GOAL: Encourage children to imagine the planets of the Solar System, according to the facts known.

★ MATERIALS: white cardboard, scissors, tape, paint, a needle and thread. (Also 'Craft Stuff' like: plastic, foil, construction paper, different kinds of sand, plasticine, mud, string, fuzzy yarn, cloth, foam, stickers, glitter glue, cotton-wool bubble wrap, etc.)

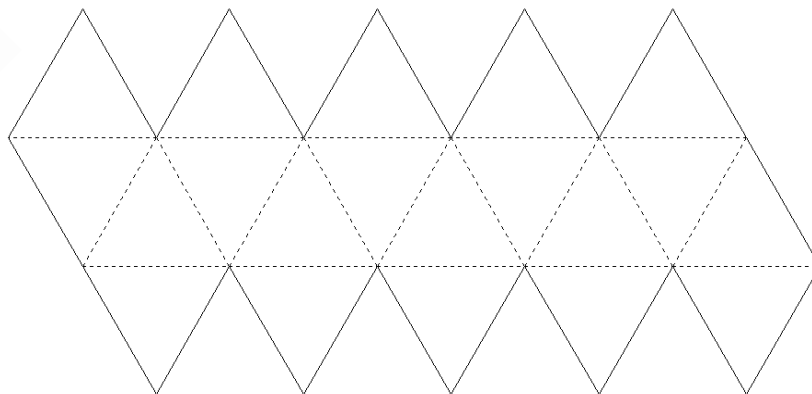


★ AGE GROUP: Adult supervised activity for 5 years and up

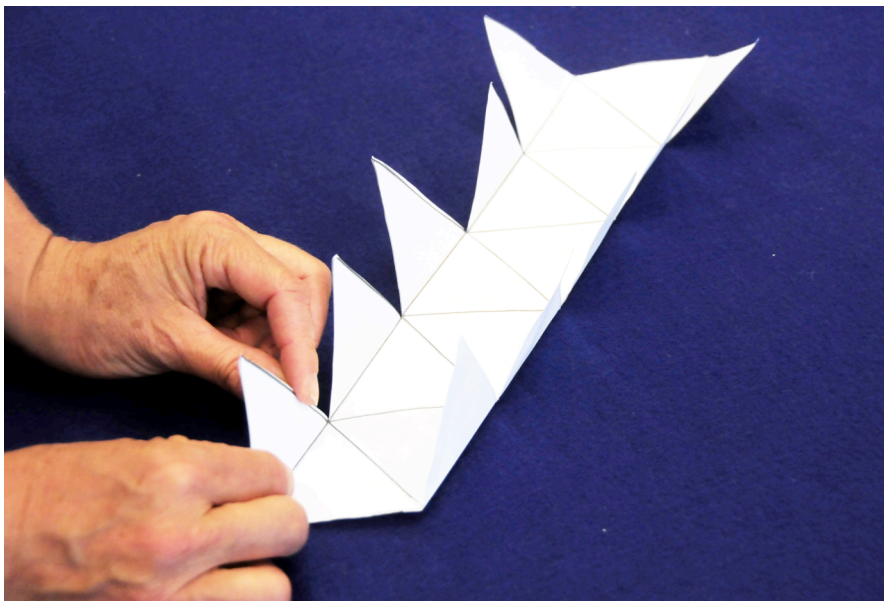


WHAT TO DO:

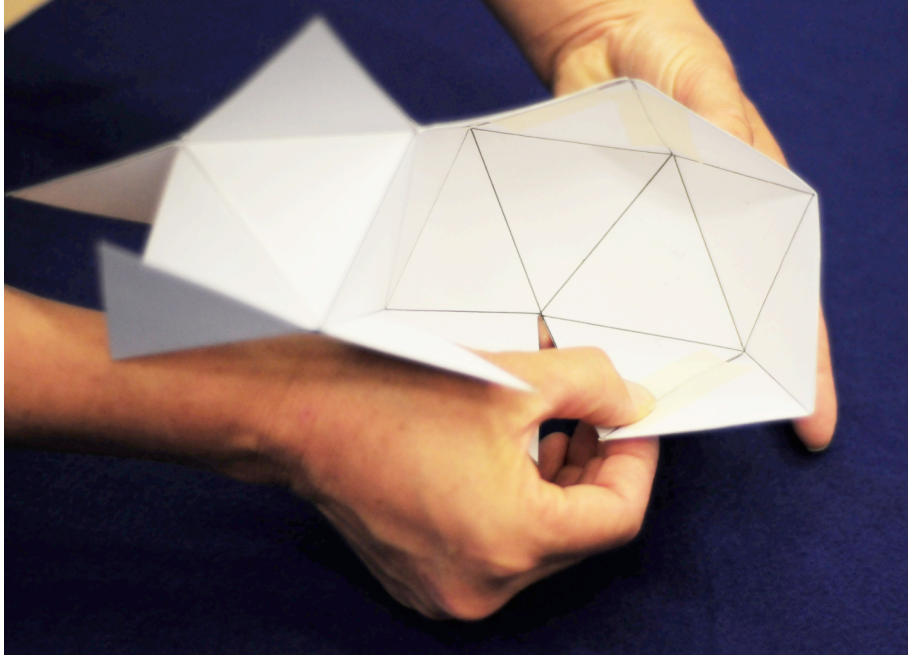
- Having READ to the children some of the extraordinary conditions that exist on the planets of the Solar System: see for example, <http://tinyurl.com/5rebh7> ask each child to choose a planet they want to make.
- Print out the icosahedron. For best results, it should be at least A3 in size.
- Cut out the icosahedron along the solid lines only.



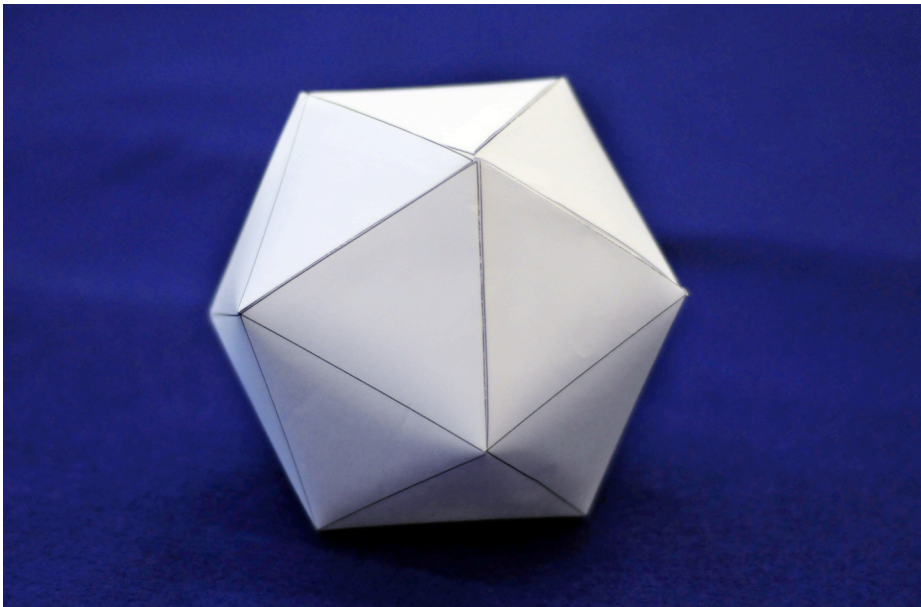
- Fold along the dotted lines.



- Tape together the adjacent faces.



- Ask the children to decorate their plain planet according to the facts they have heard. Make available a range of craft materials or encourage the kids to find what they need.



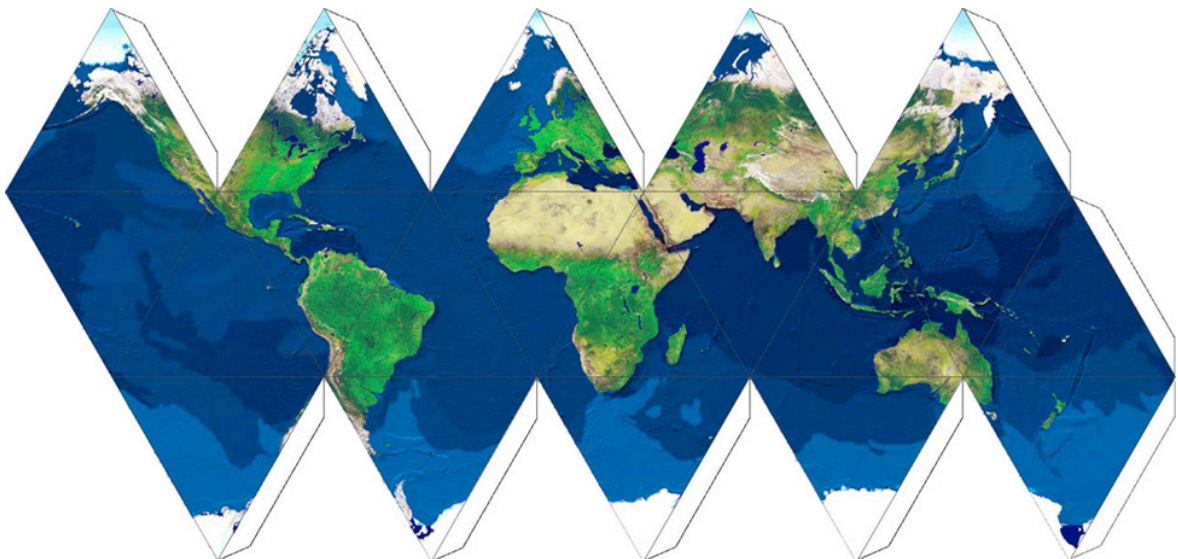
- If you are low on resources, try to find industrial discards, off-cuts and over-runs. Not only are they unusual and useful for creative purposes, you are helping reduce the amount of waste going to landfill.

- Hang the planets in the classroom and invite children to guess which planet is which.



“My planet is dusty and red, and sometimes huge dust storms cover the surface for days. What am I?”

- You can also make the Earth as an Icosahedron!



Source: UNAWE Venezuela

UNAWE is an international programme to inspire young underprivileged children with the beauty and scale of the universe. Universe Awareness illustrates the multicultural origins of modern astronomy in an effort to broaden children's minds, awaken their curiosity in science and stimulate global citizenship and tolerance. *Universe Awareness is imagination, excitement and fun in the universe for the very young.*



