Subject: Social Studies
Duration: 50 mins x 2 sessions
Unit Title: Planet earth as part of the solar system
Focus Question: What is the solar system?

Objectives:

Pupils will:

1. Define and use concepts: planets, spherical, orbit, revolution, rotation, year, solar system.
2. Identify the world as a planet, one of the eight that revolves around the sun.
3. Describe the composition of the sun.
4. Describe the shape of the earth and other planets.
5. Identify and list in order of distance from the sun, the planets
6. Explain the differences amongst a planet, a star, and a moon.
7. Use drawing to illustrate their idea of the universe and outer space.

Materials/Resources: Our World Environment bk. 6 pg 1-5
The New Integrated G.S.A.T Social Studies Workbook pg 49
Crayons, markers, coloured pencils, construction paper.
Chart showing The Solar system

Key (Vocabulary/Concepts):

A **planet** is a large space body which reflects the light of a star around which it revolves.

A **star** is a flaming ball of gives its own light.

The **moon** is referred to as a satellite which revolves around the sun and is described as an illuminous object.

Earth’s galaxy is known as the **Milky Way**.

**Spherical** – any figure that resembles a sphere but is not perfectly round.
Procedures/Activities:

Pupils will:-

1. Imagine they are astronauts or astronomers who had a glimpse of outer space or the sky. Produce a drawing to report/capture what was seen and label the different objects.
   - State what objects were included in the diagrams, then as a class, discuss the functions of the objects. (e.g. star, moon, planets etc.)

2. Examine a diagram of the universe

   - Discuss the composition of the universe especially the solar system.

3. Observe a diagram of the solar system, discuss the:-
   i. Shape of the planets
   ii. Names of the planets
   iii. Classification of the planets
4. Learn the names of the planet in the order in which they appear from the sun by memorizing this mnemonic device.

My - MERCURY
Very - Venus
Elegant - EARTH
Mother - MARS
Just - JUPITER
Served - SATURN
Us - URANUS
Noodles - NEPTUNE

Assessment:

1. Draw a diagram of the solar system.
2. Produce information about each of the planets.
3. Make up a glossary and define the following concepts: star, planet, spherical, asteroids, comets, elliptical, revolution, rotation.

Evaluation: