EO C440.03 – DISCUSS CHARACTERISTICS OF THE PLANETS IN THE SOLAR SYSTEM

1. **Performance**: Discuss Characteristics of the Planets in the Solar System

2. **Conditions**:

   a. Given:

      (1) Supervision, and

      (2) Assistance as required.

   b. Denied: Nil.

   c. Environmental: Classroom or training area large enough to accommodate the entire group.

3. **Standard**: The cadet shall discuss the characteristics of the planets in the solar system, to include:

   a. mean distance from the sun,

   b. size,

   c. mass,

   d. rotation,

   e. inclination, and

   f. orbit characteristics.

4. **Teaching Points**:

TP	Description	Method	Time	Refs
TP1	Discuss the planet Mercury, to include: a. mean distance from the sun, b. size, c. mass, d. rotation, e. inclination, and f. orbit characteristics.	Interactive Lecture	5 min	C3-170 C3-288 C3-289
TP2	Discuss the planet Venus, to include: a. mean distance from the sun, b. size, c. mass, d. rotation, e. inclination, and f. orbit characteristics.	Interactive Lecture	5 min	C3-170 C3-288 C3-289

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TP	Description	Method	Time	Refs
TP3	Discuss the planet Earth, to include: a. mean distance from the sun, b. size, c. mass, d. rotation, e. inclination, and f. orbit characteristics.	Interactive Lecture	10 min	C3-170 C3-288 C3-289
TP4	Discuss the planet Mars, to include: a. mean distance from the sun, b. size, c. mass, d. rotation, e. inclination, and f. orbit characteristics.	Interactive Lecture	5 min	C3-170 C3-288 C3-289
TP5	Discuss the planet Jupiter, to include: a. mean distance from the sun, b. size, c. mass, d. rotation, e. inclination, and f. orbit characteristics.	Interactive Lecture	10 min	C3-170 C3-288 C3-289
TP6	Discuss the planet Saturn, to include: a. mean distance from the sun, b. size, c. mass, d. rotation, e. inclination, and f. orbit characteristics.	Interactive Lecture	5 min	C3-170 C3-288 C3-289
TP7	Discuss the planet Uranus, to include: a. mean distance from the sun, b. size, c. mass, d. rotation, e. inclination, and f. orbit characteristics.	Interactive Lecture	5 min	C3-170 C3-288 C3-289

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TP	Description	Method	Time	Refs
TP8	Discuss the planet Neptune, to include: a. mean distance from the sun, b. size, c. mass, d. rotation, e. inclination, and f. orbit characteristics.	Interactive Lecture	5 min	C3-170 C3-288 C3-289

5. **Time**:

a.	Introduction / Conclusion:	10 min
b.	Interactive Lecture:	50 min
c.	Total:	60 min

6. **Substantiation**: An interactive lecture was chosen for this lesson to introduce the cadets to the characteristics of the planets in the solar system and to generate interest in the subject.

7. **References**:

a. C3-170 Ottewell, G. The National Optical Observatory. (1998). *Thousand-yard model: Or, Earth as a peppercorn*. Retrieved October 16, 2007, from http://www.noao.edu/education/peppercorn/pcmain.html

b. C3-288 Williams, D. NASA. (2008). *Planetary fact sheet–metric*. Retrieved October 14, 2008, from http://nssdc.gsfc.nasa.gov/planetary/factsheet/index.html

c. C3-289 Williams, D. NASA. (2008). *Planetary fact sheet–ratio to earth values*. Retrieved October 14, 2008, from http://nssdc.gsfc.nasa.gov/planetary/factsheet/planet_table_ratio.html

8. **Training Aids**: Nil.

9. **Learning Aids**: Planet specification sheet.

10. **Test Details**: Nil.

11. **Remarks**:

a. Planetary data is provided in detail at http://solarsystem.nasa.gov/planets/index.cfm

b. Cadets who are qualified Advanced Aerospace may assist with this instruction.

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