

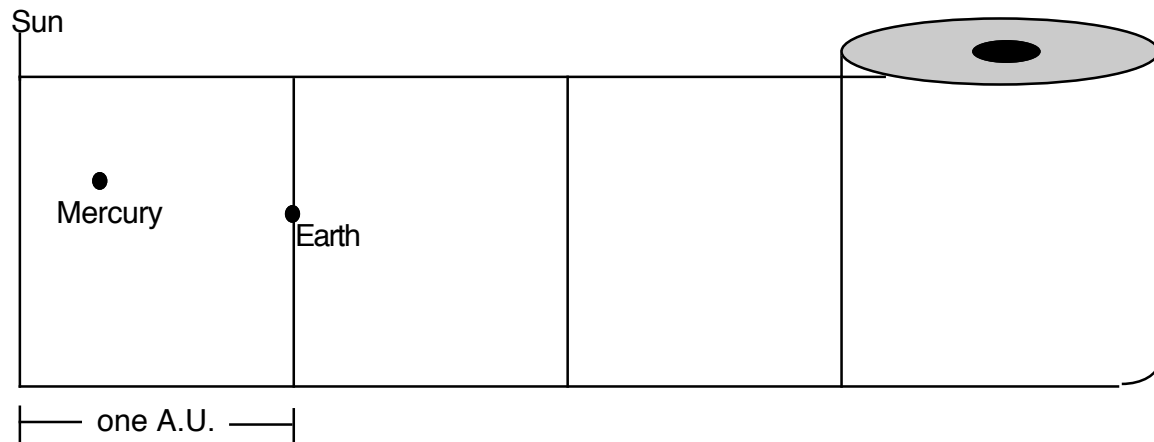
Toilet Paper Scale Model of the Solar System

The following table shows the average distances from the sun for each planet. The first measurements are in miles and the second measurements are in astronomical units. An astronomical unit is defined as the distance from the sun to the Earth, which is about 93,000,000 miles.

Planet	Average Distance from the sun (Millions of miles)	Average Distance from sun (Astronomical Units)
Mercury	36	0.39
Venus	67	0.72
Earth	93	1
Mars	142	1.52
Jupiter	484	5.2
Saturn	887	9.5
Uranus	1783	19.2
Neptune	2799	30
Pluto	3666	39

For this activity we will use the scale of one square of toilet paper to equal one astronomical unit (one square : one A.U.)

- The sun will be at the beginning of the roll.
- Mark the location of each planet according to the scale.



When you finish the activity, answer the following questions:

1. What were you surprised to learn about the distances of the planets? Why?

2. How is this model like the real thing?

3. How is this model different from the real thing?
