

POSTCARDS FROM THE PLANETS

For this project, you will create a postcard from your favorite planet.

Draw an accurate picture of your planet for the front of the postcard.

On the back of the postcard, write a short letter to a friend or family member on Earth.

The following information should be included in your postcard:

- the location of the planet in the solar system
- the planet's distance from the sun
- details about what the planet looks like
- the amount of time that it takes the planet to orbit the sun (the length of a year on your planet)
- the amount of time that it takes the planet to make one rotation (the length of a day on your planet)
- three interesting facts about your planet

Don't forget to create a stamp from your planet and put it in the right place!

Name _____ Date _____

Information Collection Sheet

Use this page to help you write your postcard.

1. My planet is called _____.
2. My planet is the _____ planet in the solar system.
3. My planet is _____ miles from the sun.
4. This is what my planet looks like:

5. It takes my planet _____ to orbit the sun. This means that one year on my planet is actually _____ Earth _____ long.
6. It takes my planet _____ to make one rotation. This means that one day on my planet is actually _____ long. That is as many as _____ Earth days!
7. These are 3 interesting facts about my planet:
 - i. _____
 - ii. _____
 - iii. _____

POSTCARDS FROM THE PLANETS (Grading Rubric)

Name _____

Grade _____

Letter and Address

<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>
The student used the correct letter-writing and address format	The student used the correct letter-writing and address format	The student did not use the correct letter-writing and address format. (or)
All of the sentences make sense.	Most of the sentences make sense.	Only some of the sentences make sense.
All of the capitalization and punctuation is correct.	Most of the capitalization and punctuation is correct.	Only some of the capitalization and punctuation is correct.
All of the spelling is correct	Most of the spelling is correct.	Only some of the spelling is correct.
The handwriting is neat and correct.	Most of the handwriting is neat and accurate.	Only some of the handwriting is neat and accurate.

Content

<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>
The student's letter contained all ten of the following required items	The student's letter included 6 or 7 of the required items	The student's letter included fewer than 6 of the required items.

- location of planet in the solar system
- distance from the sun
- time needed to orbit the sun (length of a year)
- time needed to make one rotation (length of a day)
- a description of the planet that is both accurate and detailed (3 or more sentences).
- three interesting and accurate facts about the planet.

Picture and Stamp

<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>
The pictures of the planet are accurate. They are neatly drawn and take up most of the white space	The pictures of the planet are accurate, but they are not neatly drawn or do not take up most of the white space	The pictures of the planet are not accurate. They may not be neatly drawn or they may not take up most of the white space.

Outstanding (8-9 points)

Satisfactory (4-7 points)

Needs Improvement (0-3 points)