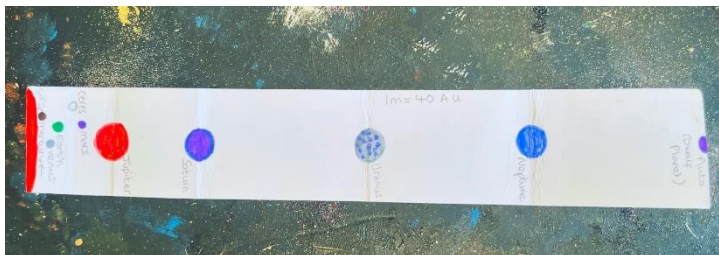


# Family Learning Session 5 - Mars

Solar System and Beyond STEM course. Planets never appear in a straight line in order out from the Sun, but this as a reminder of where the planets would orbit and would be found somewhere along a circle in the distances we calculated from the Sun. We used math skills to design and calculate a solar system to scale. We were surprised how empty the outer solar system is: there is a reason they call it space! And how crowded the inner solar system is (relatively speaking). On this scale (1 m = 40 AU) - An Astronomical Unit (AU) is the average distance between Earth and the Sun, which is about 93 million miles or 150 million kilometers. Astronomical units are usually used to measure distances within our Solar System.



We engineered and created our own Mars Rover because so far, only uncrewed spacecraft have visited Mars. Right now, there are seven spacecraft in operation collecting data from Mars. There are five orbiters circling the planet, and two space rovers on the surface. Using an example of the Perseverance Rover, that has been used to collect rock samples from the surface of Mars, we designed and made our own Rovers to land on Mars with our child.

