

Exploring 3D Models

Grade

4

Created by Heidi Samuelson



Difficulty **1**



30 minutes



small group

Tags: Science, Astronomy

App/Tech Tools

Galactic Explorer app, MERGE Cube, MERGE Headset (optional), device (phone/tablet)

Materials

Vocabulary anchor chart (optional)

Learning Objective

Support the development and exploration of the different types of models students can build in an effort to test solutions to future problems. Gain first hand experience of 3D models using Merge Cube and Galactic Explorer app.

Suggested Vocabulary: Model, Two-dimensional model, Three-dimensional model, Scale-model, Computer model

Activity

1. Discuss how scientist use models to help them create and test a solution to an identified problem.
2. Introduce and explore the different types of models that scientists can create in order to help them test a solution to a problem.
3. Compare 2D models to 3D models: Examine and discuss a diagram of the solar system. Determine the two dimensions used in this model to help you obtain information about the real thing.

4. Interact with Merge Cube and Galactic Explorer App to explore the difference in a three dimensional model.
5. Determine if the Galactic Explorer app is just a 3D model or if it could also be considered another type of model.

Suggested Questions

- How is this model different from other models?
- How might this be useful to a scientist?
- What knowledge can you gain from a 3D model that cannot be gained from other types of models?

