



The Galilean Satellites

an introduction to the moons of Jupiter

Abstract

The four large moons of Jupiter, known as the Galilean satellites, are named after their discoverer, the 17th century astronomer Galileo Galilei. They range in size from Europa, a little smaller than Earth's Moon, to mighty Ganymede, farther across than the planet Mercury. In this section, students will use worksheets to discover the size of these worlds by measuring distances between landmarks. They will also gain an understanding of the latitude and longitude system.

(For more on the Galilean satellite globes, see <http://realworldglobes.com>.)

Materials

Io worksheet
Io globe

Io Real World Globes measuring tape

Europa worksheet

Europa globe

Europa Real World Globes measuring tape

Ganymede worksheet

Ganymede globe

Ganymede Real World Globes measuring tape

Callisto worksheet

Callisto globe

Callisto Real World Globes measuring tape

Earth map or globe

The Galilean Satellites unit deals with Longitude and latitude.