



PROJECT PLANITIS MISSION PLAN

Daily mission tasks for exploring the environment
around Planitis Base, Planet Tellus

CREW MEMBER(S): _____

MISSION CONTROL: _____



MISSION PROFILE

You are assigned to explore the environment around Planitis Base, your current home. Each day you will do a task, write down your discoveries, and then report your findings to Mission Control. You can get help from your Mission Supporter (a parent or other adult) as much as you need.

BACKGROUND

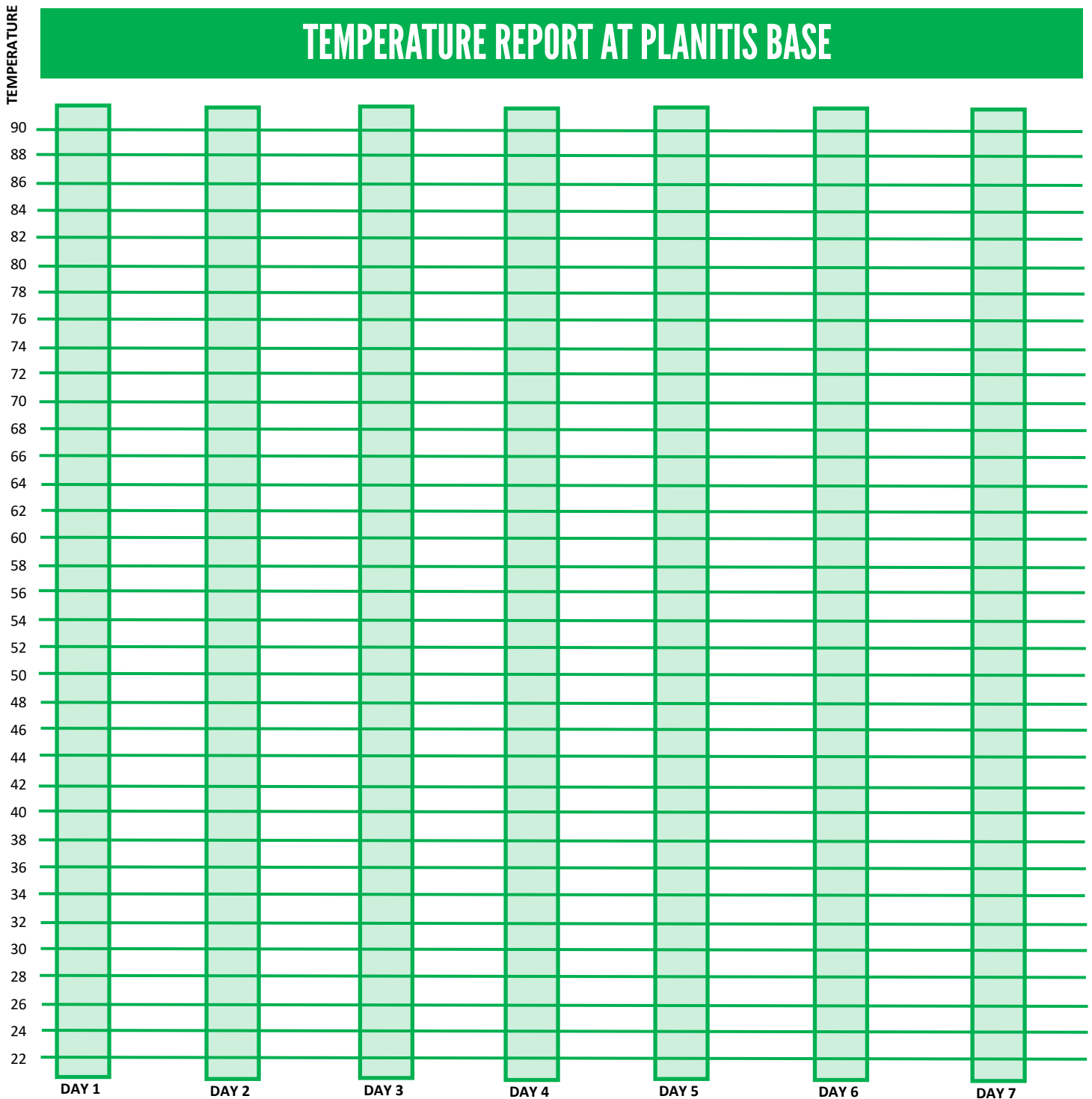
Planitis Base (*plan-EYE-tiss*) is located on the planet Tellus. Tellus has other names, too, including Terra, Terrestria and Gaia, but most people call it Earth. Tellus is one of eight planets, along with several dwarf planets and asteroids. It orbits 93 million miles from a G-type yellow dwarf star called Sol, also known as Helios, but most people call it the Sun. Most of Tellus — 71%, in fact — is covered by water. But there is lots of land to explore near Planitis Base.



PROJECT PLANITIS – DAILY OBSERVATION

ASSIGNMENT: CLIMATE SCIENCE

This assignment will take all week. Each day at the same time, take a temperature reading and chart it on the graph below. You can ask your Mission Supporter to get a temperature reading from a phone or computer. Put a dot inside the box for each day, on or near the line that stands for the temperature you got that day. At the end of the week, draw a line connecting the dots so you'll have a temperature chart of the whole week.





PROJECT PLANITIS REPORT – DAY 1

ASSIGNMENT: GEOLOGY

Search for the strangest-looking rock you can find. Use a hammer to break it open. **This is dangerous!** You may need to cover it with a towel or rag, and get your Mission Supporter to help you so you don't get hurt.

After you break it open, use the Space Magnifier to study it. Write down what you see. Are there any crystals inside? Any strange lines or layers? Are there different kinds of rock inside of it? See if you can draw and color it on your report in the space below.

DAY 1 REPORT



PROJECT PLANITIS REPORT – DAY 2

ASSIGNMENT: SOIL SCIENCE

Go outside and take a soil sample. Use the Soil Sampler to dig down and lift out dirt from below the surface. Use the Space Magnifier to study the soil. What do you see? Are there different bits and pieces inside? Write down what you see on your report below. Tape a small piece of the soil to your report.

DAY 2 REPORT



PROJECT PLANITIS REPORT – DAY 3

ASSIGNMENT: BOTANY

Get a sample of a plant. Study it under the Space Magnifier. Write down what you see. Does it have different textures? What are they like? How does the sample feel in your hand? Write all this down on your report. Tape a piece of the plant sample below.

DAY 3 REPORT



PROJECT PLANITIS REPORT – DAY 4

ASSIGNMENT: DENDROLOGY

Dendrology is the study of woody plants, such as trees. Get a sample of tree bark from a tree near Planitis Base. Study it under the Space Magnifier. Write down what you see, such as the colors and textures. Can you find any sign of life inside the bark, such as moss or lichens? Draw a picture of what you see.

DAY 4 REPORT



PROJECT PLANITIS REPORT – DAY 5

ASSIGNMENT: METEOROLOGY & CLIMATE SCIENCE

Meteorology is the study of weather. Go out and see what the weather is like. Are there lots of clouds, or just a few? What do the clouds look like? Is it sunny or raining? What is the temperature? Is the air cold or warm on your skin? Write all this down in your report. Draw a picture of the weather over Planitis Base.

DAY 5 REPORT



PROJECT PLANITIS REPORT – DAY 6

ASSIGNMENT: BOTANY #2

Get a sample of a dead plant. Study it under the Space Magnifier. Write down what you see. How is it different from the sample you took last week? What seems “dead” about it? How does the sample feel in your hand? Write all this down on your report. Tape a piece of the plant sample to your report.

DAY 6 REPORT



PROJECT PLANITIS REPORT – DAY 7

ASSIGNMENT: ZOOLOGY

Zoology is the study of animals. Explore the area around Planitis Base and write down the different animals you see. You don't have to count them. Just write down the different ones you see. Also write down what they're doing. Are they climbing trees? Running across the street? Eating? Playing? Flying? Report what you see.

DAY 7 REPORT



PROJECT PLANITIS REPORT – EXTRA

ASSIGNMENT: ASTRONOMY

Astronomy is the study of stars. If you get a clear night or a clear early morning, go out and look at the stars over Planitis Base. Write down the different kinds of stars you see. Are some brighter than others? Why do you think so? Can you see the Moon? What phase is it in? Draw the sky you see, including where the brightest stars are. Your Mission Supporter may be able to help you find which ones are planets!

EXTRA REPORT



CONGRATULATIONS!

This certifies that

completed Project Planitis!

DATE:

AUTHORIZED BY:



INSTRUCTIONS FOR MISSION SUPPORTERS

WARNING: Children should not do these projects unsupervised! A parent or guardian should serve as the Mission Supporter for the Project Planitis Crew Members. The Mission Supporter can help keep the Crew Member focused, ask questions and help with certain tasks.

Reporting to Mission Control works best if that person is someone outside of the home—a relative or family friend. The Crew Member can call Mission Control by phone, FaceTime or similar tool and give a report each day. If that's not possible, someone else in the home can serve as Mission Control.

The tools needed by Crew Members for this project:

- Soil Sampler — use an old pill bottle
- Space Magnifier — a simple magnifying glass (a microscope is great if you have one)
- Pencil or pen — for writing the report
- Colored pencils, markers or crayons — for illustrating the report

You may have other tools or ideas for doing these projects, too.

It's also fun for the Mission Supporter to document the Crew Member's work by taking photos. You can also send the photos to Mission Control as part of the Crew Member's daily report.

When the mission is completed, be sure to fill out the certificate with the Crew Member's name, date of completion and Mission Supporter or Mission Control's signature. Post the certificate somewhere visible.

And most important of all ... have fun!

DISCLAIMER: Project Planitis 2020 and all activities included herein are intended to be done with adult supervision only. Users assume responsibility for any and all risks and outcomes associated with these activities. The creator of Project Planitis 2020 shall not be liable for any direct, indirect, incidental, special, consequential or punitive damages, any tangible or intangible losses, any or all injury or illness, or any conduct or outcome that may be deemed illegal, offensive, defamatory, dangerous or objectionable in any manner by any person or entity.