

Download Retrograde Motion Lab Activity

4. Model retrograde motion on the orrery activity. 5. Have the students use coins, cups, etc to create their own smaller model of the motion to demonstrate understanding. The students should create their own video using a phone or POD. This is the most important part!!!!After reading about and discussing retrograde motion, it is still difficult for some students to visualize what retrograde motion is or exactly how planets seem to be moving "in reverse." This activity was designed for students to act out the motion of the planets in the solar system and see the apparent backwards motion of the planets.

ACTIVITY- Retrograde Motion Name _____ "Backward" Motion of Planets. Planets tend to move across the sky in an easterly direction. Occasionally, something strange occurs. A planet appears to slow down and begin moving backward toward the west. In this activity you are going to find out why this happens.

Retrograde Motion Name _____ Earth Science Date: _____ Hr: ____

Background: Most planets move across the sky in a west east direction. Occasionally, something strange occurs. A planet appears to slow down and move backward (to the west). Today you are going to find out why it happens. The diagram