

New Horizons

Background Information

For interesting facts about Pluto and the New Horizon mission, read the New Horizons pdf packet and visit:

<http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/en/kids/pluto/index.shtml>

Objectives

By the end of this activity, students will be able to:

- conduct research on the Internet.
- describe NASA's New Horizons mission.

Materials

- Astronomer Journal page 38
- Internet access

Procedures

1. Students should go to the website
<http://spaceplace.nasa.gov/en/kids/pluto/index.shtml>
2. Students should use the SpacePlace website to answer the questions on page 38 of their Astronaut Journals

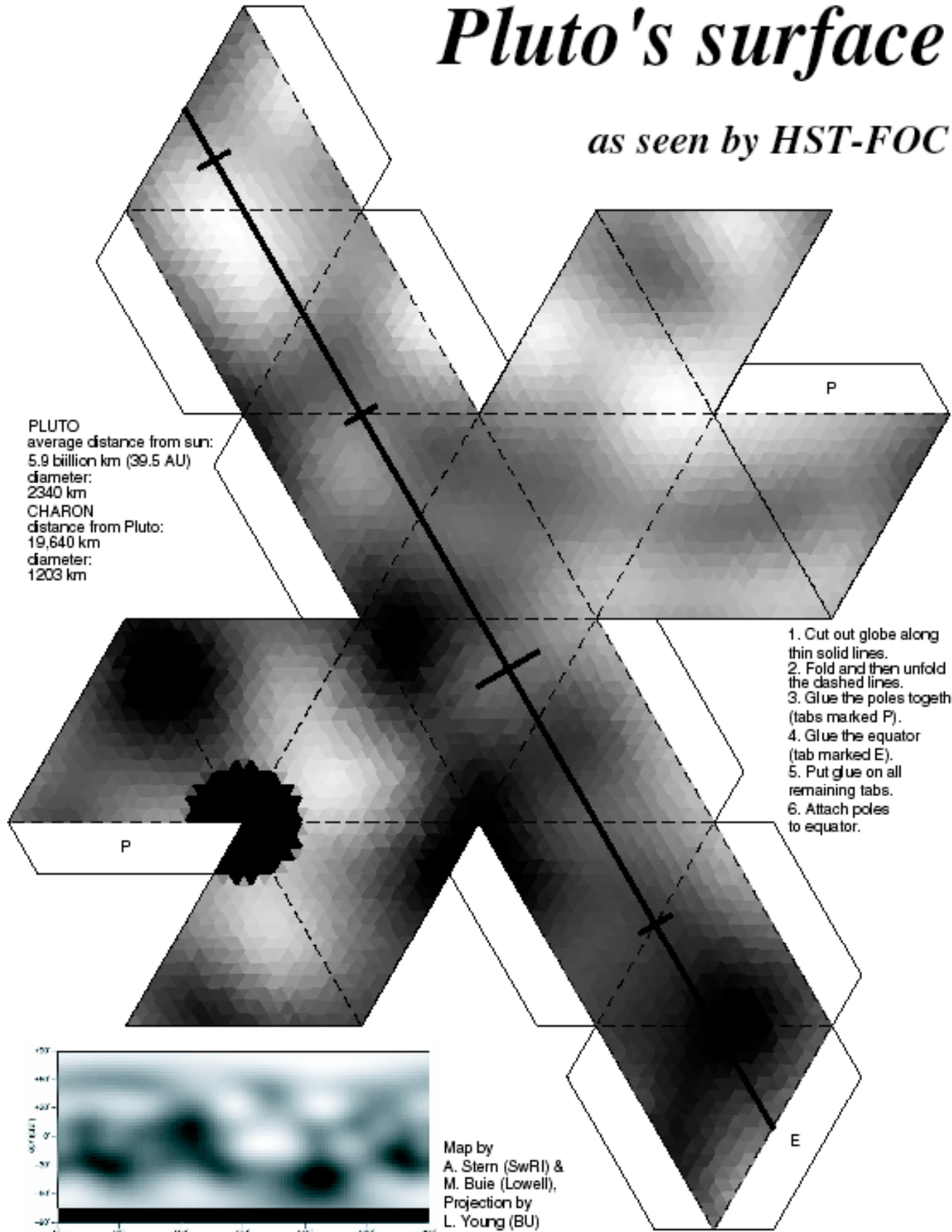
Expected Results & Explanations

Upon completion of this activity, students should know some information about New Horizons, NASA's satellite on way to Pluto. This satellite is the basis of the Solar System mission at the Challenger Learning Center. Have students make Pluto globes by cutting out and constructing the pattern on the next page (not located in Astronomer Journals).

Pluto's surface

as seen by HST-FOC

PLUTO
average distance from sun:
5.9 billion km (39.5 AU)
diameter:
2340 km
CHARON
distance from Pluto:
19,640 km
diameter:
1203 km



1. Cut out globe along thin solid lines.
2. Fold and then unfold the dashed lines.
3. Glue the poles together (tabs marked P).
4. Glue the equator (tab marked E).
5. Put glue on all remaining tabs.
6. Attach poles to equator.

Map by
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Projection by
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