

We are thrilled to share with you our plans for the upcoming 10th At Home Discovery Kit, scheduled for release in the summer of 2025 in the United States Virgin Islands. Building on the success of our previous kits, we are excited to announce that the theme for this new kit will be celestial bodies.

Celestial bodies are natural objects that exist in space, such as planets, moons, stars, asteroids, comets, and galaxies. These objects are part of the universe and are typically found outside of Earth's atmosphere. Celestial bodies can vary greatly in size, composition, and characteristics, and they play a significant role in the study of astronomy and astrophysics. Some well-known celestial bodies include the Sun, Moon, Earth, Mars, Jupiter, Saturn, and various stars and galaxies that make up the vast expanse of the cosmos. Studying celestial bodies helps scientists and researchers better understand the universe and its many mysteries.

Teaching kids about celestial bodies can be a fun and engaging experience that sparks their curiosity about the universe. Facilitating children in hands-on activities such as creating a model solar system using craft materials like clay, Styrofoam balls, or paper mache allows them to visualize the relative sizes and distances of planets in our solar system. Children can express their creativity by making space-themed art and crafts, such as painting planets, creating galaxy jars, or designing their own alien creatures. Families can conduct simple science experiments that



demonstrate concepts such as gravity, orbits, and phases of the Moon. For example, you can use a flashlight and a ball to simulate the phases of the Moon. Specific kit materials we can provide will be dependent on the level of funding acquired by late spring.

The At Home Discovery Kit program is an ongoing GlobalGiving.org fundraising initiative At Home Discovery Kits for VI Families (47832), and we are dedicated to ensuring that every child in the US Virgin Islands has access to educational opportunities. We are grateful for your continued support and dedication to our mission. Together, we are making a positive difference in the lives of children in the US Virgin Islands.

Sincerely,

The VICM Team